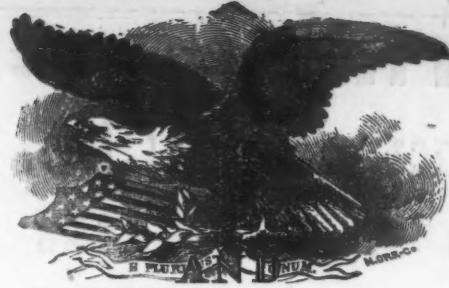


# ARMY



# NAVY

GAZETTE OF THE  
REGULAR

## JOURNAL.

AND VOLUNTEER  
FORCES.

VOLUME XV.—NUMBER 10.}  
WHOLE NUMBER 788.

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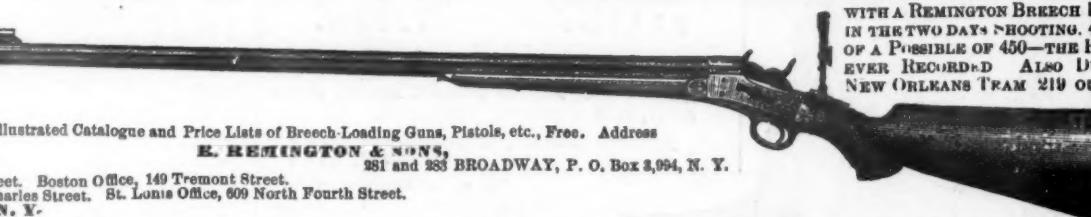
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### THE PEACEMAKER.

This pistol, for efficiency, safety, simplicity, and lightness, is far in advance of any military pistol that has yet appeared. After an exhaustive trial in competition with all other pistols submitted (six in all) in 1873, it was adopted as the Cavalry pistol of the United States, on the recommendation of the Board of Officers who made the trials, and the whole of the Cavalry has since been armed with it.

Among seven different military pistols experimented upon at Spandau during the past year by the Prussian Government, the firing of this pistol was the best in all respects.

It is confidently recommended to officers of the Army and Navy, guides, hunters, and all who travel among dangerous communities, as the best weapon to carry on the person that has ever been produced.



#### EXTRACTS FROM

### ORDNANCE NOTES - - NO. 5.

WASHINGTON, JUNE 27, 1873.

### REVOLVERS USING METALLIC AMMUNITION.

FIRST REPORT on New Model Colt and Smith & Wesson Revolvers. Made at National Armory, December 27, 1872.

NATIONAL ARMORY, SPRINGFIELD, Mass., December 27, 1872.

SIR: In accordance with your instructions, I have tested three Smith & Wesson revolvers (new model) and the Colt's revolver (new model), submitted by Gen. W. B. Franklin, and have the honor to make the following report.

[DESCRIPTION OMITTED.]

The new model Colt revolver is not an alteration of their old revolver for paper cartridges, as is the model now in service. It is made with a solid frame, inclosing the cylinder, and into which the barrel is screwed. The cylinder is of greater diameter and a little shorter than the old one. The hand which rotates the cylinder is an improvement,

having two fingers, one of which reinforces the other, giving a considerable gain of power. The ejector is similar to the old one, but one end of the ejector tube is set in the frame, the other being fastened to the barrel by a screw. The base pin is held in place by a screw through the frame.

This revolver is supplied with a safety notch, on which it can be carried without the firing pin touching the cartridge. The other parts are essentially the same as in the old model.

As required by the instructions from Ordnance Office, I give below the details of the tests to which the revolvers have been subjected:

[DETAILS OMITTED.]

The Colt revolver was first fired three hundred rounds with service ammunition, allowing it to cool after each hundred rounds. No difficulty was experienced from it, and only one cartridge failed to explode. This one was found to be defective in fulminate.

The revolver was then laid in the snow, water poured over it, and it was allowed to remain in the weather three days and nights. When taken up again it was rusted considerably but worked perfectly. It was again fired up to two hundred rounds, with two cartridges failing to explode. One of these exploded at second trial and the other with the punch and hammer.

The Colt and one of the Smith & Wesson were then fired for accuracy at fifty yards. A target of ten shots with each gave mean absolute deviation—for Colt, 3.11 in.; for the Smith & Wesson, 4.39 in.

Both revolvers were then placed in a close box connected with the pulverizer, and well sanded. The sand did not affect the working of either.

They were then fired at twenty-five yards distance for penetration. The average penetration for ten shots with each was—for the Colt, 4.1 in.; for the Smith & Wesson, 3.35 in.

The Smith & Wesson was then fired one hundred rounds and the Colt two hundred rounds. No difficulty was experienced with either, only a slight increase in friction being noticeable in the Smith & Wesson. One cartridge failed to explode in the Colt and eight in the Smith & Wesson. The one failing in the Colt was exploded with a centre punch. Six of those failing in the Smith & Wesson exploded at second trial, one at third trial, and the other one was without fulminate.

I finally tried the "Leet" cartridges in the Colt revolver to ascertain the effect of bursting through the cap, as they had done with the Smith & Wesson. The cartridges were taken from the same box, and about twenty of them from the same package as those that burst in the Smith & Wesson revolvers, but out of eighty fired none burst. At the same time, of four cartridges from this package fired in the Smith & Wesson revolver two burst as before.

The Smith & Wesson revolvers have been fired respectively 998, 608 and 845 rounds; the Colt about 800 rounds. The better working of the Colt is noticeable throughout. No difficulty has been found with it, while the Smith & Wesson has several times clogged to such an extent as to render it almost impossible to cock it. This clogging is most liable to occur in cold and dry weather, when the fouling is allowed to harden on the piece. The lengthening of the "collar" was intended to overcome this liability to clog, as developed in the model now in the hands of the troops, and has, no doubt, reduced it. The cylinder stop is also an improvement, and the strengthening of parts, which is the object of most of the changes, has made a better weapon than the old one, but I still regard it as rather delicate for general service. The two parts of this revolver which broke during the trial may have contained defects, but these and other parts of it are of such a character as to develop defects in the manufacture.

A great objection to this arm is the difficulty of dismounting for cleaning and reassembling it. Though improved in this respect by the marking of the gear and frame and the change in the rack, soldiers generally would still find it complicated.

The only superiority it can claim over the Colt is the greater rapidity of ejecting the empty cases. I think that in the case of poor ammunition and the bursting of the heads of cartridges in the two arms, the Smith & Wesson could more readily be relieved from the consequent clogging than the Colt.

In the Colt the number of the parts is less, they are more simple and stronger, and are not subjected to as great strains as those in the Smith & Wesson. It can be dismounted for cleaning by drawing one screw and slipping out the base pin, and reassembled with the same ease.

I have no hesitation in declaring the Colt revolver superior in most respects, and much better adapted to the wants of the Army than the Smith & Wesson.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN R. EDIE,

Captain of Ordnance.

Major J. G. BENTON, Commanding.

Approved and respectfully forwarded to the Chief of Ordnance, agreeably to his instructions of September 2, 1873.

J. G. BENTON,

Major of Ordnance, Commanding.

[Further details embracing other rejected arms omitted.]

#### NOTE.

As the reports on the several models of revolvers using the metallic ammunition plainly show the superiority of the Colt revolver (last model) over all others tried, the Chief of Ordnance has been authorized by the War Department to purchase 8,000 of these arms for the use of the cavalry arm of the service.

ORDNANCE OFFICE, June 26, 1873.

The contract with this company was extended April 30, 1874, to include 2,000 additional pistols, making 10,000 in all.

# ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

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Capt. Robert H. Hall, Adjutant, U. S. M. A.

## ABSTRACT OF IMPORTANT ORDERS.

O. 93, H. Q. A., Oct. 2, 1877.

Publishes instructions, prepared in the office of the Commissary General of Subsistence, and approved by the Secretary of War.

G. O. 94, H. Q. A., Oct. 3, 1877.

Upon the recommendation of the Chief of Ordnance, the Secretary of War directs the following modifications of G. O. 14, from the War Department, series of 1876, viz.:

I. Every battery of Artillery actually armed and equipped as a battery of horse artillery or a light battery, and serving as such, will be allowed, for annual practice, as many blank cartridges and friction primers for instruction and drill as may be deemed necessary by the battery commander, and approved by the post commander. Such batteries will also be permitted to expend in target practice, annually, twenty-five projectiles for each gun of the command.

Batteries at fortifications will be allowed, annually, for instruction and drill for each battery, twenty-five blank cartridges, and for target practice twelve projectiles for calibers above eight-inch and twenty projectiles for calibers of eight-inch and below, with the necessary blank cartridges. When more than one battery is serving at a post there will be allowed for each one additional, one-half of the allowance above made for a single battery—the whole number of blank cartridges and projectiles to be equally divided among all. For instruction in the use of the friction-primer a reasonable number will be allowed in addition to the number necessary for the practice with blank cartridges and projectiles. At posts garrisoned by Infantry or Cavalry, where there are one or more pieces of artillery, the same allowance of ammunition per gun for target practice and instruction can be expended.

The ammunition used for drill and for target practice in all cases will be selected from the serviceable ammunition which has been longest on hand at the post. The practice will in all cases be conducted with great care, and with a single object to convey to officers and men the greatest possible amount of practical information. Commanding officers of posts and batteries will transmit through the proper channels for the information of the Chief of Ordnance, on forms supplied by the Ordnance Department, reports of each and every shot fired, not only in practice and instruction, but also in actual service against an enemy.

II. Hereafter there will be allowed, per annum, for target practice with the Gatling or other machine guns, one thousand ball cartridges for all calibers above fifty one-hundredths of one

inch, and for calibers fifty one-hundredths of one inch and those below, two thousand, to be expended and accounted for in the same manner as small-arm ammunition allowed the Army for a like purpose.

Blank cartridges should never be used in the Gatling gun.

G. O. 95, H. Q. A., Oct. 4, 1877.

Upon the recommendation of the Chief of Ordnance, the Secretary of War directs the modifications of existing orders as follows, viz.:

I. The Army will be allowed, at the rate of twenty ball cartridges per man per month, for target practice, and in the Cavalry service this number will be divided between the carbine and revolver, at the discretion of the commanding officer. Every commanding officer of a post will name an officer to supervise the target practice, and the results will be embodied in bi-monthly reports, to be rendered by company commanders, through the proper channels, for the information of the Chief of Ordnance. When not expended in target practice, the ammunition may, in the discretion of the post commander, be expended in hunting. This allowance need not be expended in each month, but may accumulate, not longer, however, than to the end of the fiscal year, and thus be used under the most favorable circumstances. The unexpended at the end of the fiscal year (June 30) will be no longer available.

II. Officers charged with the instruction of recruits may use the blank cartridges at discretion during the first year's enlistment, and at the rate of twenty ball cartridges per man per month for target practice.

III. Civil employees of the War Department may be armed, in cases of emergency, when necessary for the protection of life or public property, and the same responsibility attaches to the officers accountable for said arms that attaches to officers of the Army accountable for the arms in the hands of enlisted men.

The same regulations governing the expenditure of ammunition by enlisted men apply to civil employees when armed as above, except that the latter are not allowed to expend cartridges in drill or target practice.

IV. Arms lost, destroyed, or embezzled by hired men in the employ of the Government, are charged in the same manner as stores similarly lost by enlisted men—a certificate statement made of it in duplicate, and the money accounted for to the Ordnance Department. One copy of the statement is filed with the return.

V. When ammunition is furnished to scouts, or civil employees, or for escort duty, etc., it cannot be dropped from the returns of the responsible officer unless actually expended by them in the performance of their duty, and it is only considered expended when actually fired from the piece (rifle, carbine, or revolver). After the duty is performed the cartridges not fired must be returned to the responsible officer and accounted for by him.

For such expenditures the officer's certificate as to the necessity therefor accompanies his property return.

VI. Ammunition can only be expended in action; in defence of life or public property; in target practice or hunting, as provided in par. I; in the instruction of recruits; for authoriz'd salutes, and for the subsistence of scouts and other civil employees when they are obliged to rely on their arms to sustain life.

VII. The service arms are sold to officers for their own use. The service ammunition is to be accounted for in their arms; to enlisted men; to civilians engaged in exploring or surveying expeditions authorized by law, and to civilian employees of the War Department, for hunting purposes, when considered necessary or for the interest of the United States.

When specially authorized by the Secretary of War, arms can be sold to civilians, engaged in surveying or exploring expeditions authorized by law, and to Indian agencies.

VIII. The arms and equipments used by an officer are his private property, and can, under no circumstances, be issued to him from Government stores to be accounted for by him as in the case of arms, etc., in the hands of enlisted men; nor can Ordnance stores be loaned to individuals, corporations, Indian agencies, or any other parties whatsoever, and any officer making such a loan is held responsible for the money value of the articles.

HDQRS DEPT. OF THE COLUMBIA, IN THE FIELD, CAMP CANON, WY. T., Aug. 29, 1877.

General Field Orders No. 6.

After the briefest rest, which was rendered imperatively necessary by the extreme fatigue of the men, and the exhausted state of the supplies, the pursuit of the enemy has been resumed—a pursuit which it is believed will only end in his capture or in driving him beyond the boundaries of our territory.

The General Commanding takes this opportunity of expressing to men and officers his thorough appreciation of the labors they have performed. After contending for two days against superior numbers they drove their enemy in headlong flight from fortified positions, and forced him to abandon the country for which he fought, and to seek refuge on the rugged paths of barren mountains. He was followed into these fastnesses, now robbed by the retreat of the hostile band of even the scanty forage they once possessed, and in thirty-one days the command traversed a distance of 540 miles, constructing a road much of the way—twice crossing the chain of mountains which constitutes the great continental divide, and pressing so closely upon the wearied enemy as to force him reluctantly to relinquish the fertile valleys where he sought to rest; compelling him to forego all marauding excursions from his line of march; passing him from the settlements; and it is believed these exertions found a reward in bringing relief to brave comrades, who were closely pressed by the enemy, and certainly to parties of civilians exposed to outrage.

The campaign was begun with the minimum allowance of summer clothing, and with no renewal of supplies, has been continued into the heart of mountains, where day brings the oppressive heat and dust of August, and night the ice and piercing winds of December.

The surgeons' reports show the effect of exposure and hardship which have already been passed through, and the insufficient bedding and clothing, and the tattered shoes, attest those still bravely enduring.

The general is not ignorant that two companies are destitute of overcoats, and that a still greater number of the command are without them by the sacrifice of these garments, on the day of battle, to the necessities of the wounded. He is aware that many men of this command have not underclothing sufficient to preserve health and cleanliness—their condition in this respect is deplorable; but being far removed from our base of supplies, though every exertion has been made, the unsettled and deplorable condition of the country in which we are operating renders it extremely difficult to make adequate provisions for the men's comfort; for such has been the rapidity of our march that supplies pressing after it have not been able to overtake the command.

The march may truthfully be said to have been an incessant "forced march," in which a command, composed partially of foot troops, in thirty-one days, gained fifteen days on a body of the best mounted Indians in the world; but specially may be mentioned the march made by the cavalry command, under Major G.-O. B. Sanford, 1st Cavalry, directed by Major Edwin C. Mason, 21st Infantry, Chief of Staff, and Department Inspector-General, of more than seventy miles in two days; that of the artillery and infantry battalions, under Captains Miller, 4th Artillery, and Miles, 21st Infantry, of forty-six miles in one day, wagons partially assisting; and that of Captain Cushing's and Captain Field's companies, 4th Artillery, of fifty-six miles in one day.

The horde of Indian marauders with their vast band of horses swept their path clean of subsistence, forage and supplies, so

that where they had abundance, our ration was scanty. Several times have the larger portions of the command, of necessity, been twenty-four hours without food. Where their animals grazed, ours starved; where they had a herd of two thousand fresh horses to replace their exhausted stock, we found only the useless ones they had abandoned; nevertheless by a persistence, only possible with willing men, we steadily closed upon them.

With frequent opportunities for desertion in the villages, through which the command has passed, the General is gratified to know that only two men in his command were found so forgetful of their oath, and regardless of their honor, as to desert their allegiance and turn back from the pursuit of the enemy.

It is impossible to notice even briefly the innumerable privations of necessity suffered by troops operating in this wild country. The General can only state that he is not unmindful of what his command has done in the face of unusual obstacles. Now that, with scant supplies and burdened with sick, it is plunging into a wilderness, he relies, under God, on that same disciplined spirit which supports the United States soldier in the sharp conflict of war to the death with a savage foe, and sustained him in the suspense, anxiety and hardships of a protracted campaign—a spirit that looks for its reward in the conscientious performance of duty.

## STAFF CORPS AND DEPARTMENTS

### CHANGES OF STATIONS.

A. A. Surg. J. E. Tallon is relieved from duty at the Presidio of San Francisco, Cal., and will proceed to Camp Halleck, Nev., for temporary duty, relieving Surg. A. A. Woodhull. Surg. Woodhull will proceed to Alcatraz Island, Cal., for duty (S. O. 117, Sept. 21, M. D. P.)

Major W. R. Gibson, P. D., is assigned to duty in Dept. of Mo. and will take station in Leavenworth City, Kas. Major E. H. Brooke, P. D., is relieved from further duty as member G. C.-M., par 5, S. O. 148, from these Hdqrs, and from duty in this Dept. He will proceed to obey the orders he has received from H. Q. A. (S. O. 178, Oct. 1, D. M.)

A. A. Surg. W. D. Baker will proceed to Ft. Townsend, W. T., and relieve Surg. C. H. Alden, as post surgeon, to enable Surg. Alden to comply with par. 7, S. O. 193, from the Hdqrs Army (S. O. 138, Sept. 25, D. C.)

A. Surg. W. H. Gardner is relieved from duty at Allegheny Arsenal, Pittsburgh, Pa., and will proceed to Atlanta, Ga., for duty (S. O. 232, Oct. 6, M. D. A.)

Major E. McClellan, Surgeon, is assigned to duty as post surgeon at Fort Lapwai, I. T., to which post he will rejoin and relieve Surg. G. M. Sternberg. Major Sternberg, Surgeon, will proceed to Fort Walla Walla, W. T., and resume his duty as post surgeon. Captain J. Brooke, Asst. Surg., now on duty with the 2d Infantry—Fort Lapwai, I. T.—will report to Major J. Green, 1st Cavalry, commanding the reserve column, troops near Mount Idaho, I. T., for duty as post surgeon at Camp Howard—the temporary camp established at that place—relieving Asst. Surg. Mathews.

Capt. F. W. Elbrey, Asst. Surg., now on duty with the detachment of the 2d Infantry at Palouse City, W. T., is assigned to duty as post surgeon at the temporary camp to be established at or near Spokane Falls, W. T. A. A. Surg. E. J. Pring, now on duty at Lewiston, I. T., is assigned to duty at Fort Lapwai, I. T. (S. O. 139, Sept. 26, D. C.)

### DETACHED SERVICE.

A. Surg. A. B. Campbell, M. D., member G. C.-M. Ringgold Bks, Tex., per par. 1, S. O. 140, from these Hdqrs (S. O. 171, Sept. 28, D. T.)

Capt. J. Brooke, Asst. Surg., member G. C.-M. Ft. Lapwai, Idaho T., Oct. 4 (S. O. 136, Sept. 21, D. C.)

Major J. H. Nelson, P. D., member G. C.-M. San Francisco, Cal., Sept. 25 (S. O. 118, Sept. 22, M. D. P.)

1st Lieut. L. M. Maus, A. Surg., member G. C.-M. Standing Rock Agency, D. T., Oct. 11 (S. O. 134, Oct. 4, D. D.)

Captain W. A. Elderkin, S. D., will proceed from Sioux City, Iowa, to Yankton, D. T., on public business (S. O. 138, Oct. 3, D. D.)

A. Surg. E. Bentley will inspect at Little Rock Bks, Ark., certain subsistence stores, reported unserviceable (S. O. 153, Oct. 1, D. G.)

Lieut.-Col. S. B. Holabird, Chief Q. M. Mil. Div. of Mo., will proceed to the Hdqrs Dept. of Dakota, St. Paul, Minn.; Dept. of the Plate, Omaha, Neb.; Dept. of the Missouri, Fort Leavenworth, Kas.; and to Dept. of Texas, San Antonio, on business connected with the public service (S. O. 94, Oct. 4, M. D. M.)

Lieut.-Col. C. H. Tompkins, D. Q. M. Gen., will report for orders to the Adj't.-General of the Army (S. O. Oct. 3, W. D.)

1st Lieut. W. H. Newlands, Asst. Surg., member G. C.-M. Camp W. L. English Horse Prairie, Mont. T., Aug. 15 (S. F. O. 50, Aug. 15, D. C.)

Col. C. L. Kilburn, Chief C. S., will proceed to Fort Leavenworth, Kas., and St. Louis, Mo., for making inspection of flour (S. O. 95, Oct. 8, M. D. M.)

Capt. W. Matthews, Asst. Surg., on duty with troops near Mount Idaho, Idaho T., will accompany Cos. B and F, 12th Infantry, to the Dept. of Cal. (S. O. 138, Sept. 25, D. C.)

Par 4, S. O. 69, from these Hdqrs, detailing A. A. Surg. J. S. Martin for duty in the field and directing him to accompany Co. L, 9th Cavalry, to Fort Craig, N. M., is revoked, he having been summoned as a witness before G. C. M. convened at Fort Garland, Colo., by par. 2, S. O. 167, c. s., Hdqrs Dept. of Missouri (S. O. 71, Oct. 1, D. N. M.)

During the temporary absence of Surg. J. P. Wright A. A. Surg. W. Barbour will discharge his duties at the Leavenworth Military Prison (S. O. 181, Oct. 6, D. M.)

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.  
Two months, 1st Lieut. J. C. Mallory, C. E., on duty

at Hdqrs Mil. Div. of Pacific, and apply to the Adjutant-General for extension of four months (S. O. 119, Sept. 27, M. D. P.)

Ten days, Captain E. D. Baker, A. Q. M., San Antonio, Texas (S. O. 174, Oct. 2, D. T.)

Seven days, Major W. R. Gibson, Leavenworth, Kas (S. O. 180, Oct. 5, D. M.)

Major T. C. Sullivan, C. S., extended one month (S. O., Oct. 5, W. D.)

One month, Asst. Surg. H. M. Cronkhite, to apply for extension of one month (S. O. 109, Sept. 26, D. A.)

#### NON-COMMISSIONED STAFF.

Hosp. Stewd F. Reed is relieved from duty at Camp near Old Camp Wallen, A. T., and will report to the C. O. Fort Whipple, A. T., for duty at that post (S. O. 105, Sept. 19, D. A.)

Hosp. Stewd H. Schmidt is relieved from duty in office of Chief Medical Officer of District, and will proceed to Fort Bayard, N. M., for duty (S. O. 70, Sept. 26, D. N. M.)

Hosp. Stewd W. F. von Manteufel is relieved from temporary duty at these Hdqrs, and will proceed to Fort McKavett, Texas, for duty (S. O. 173, Oct. 1, D. G.)

Hosp. Stewd H. H. Von Falkenstein is relieved from duty at Fort Leavenworth, Kas. He will proceed to Fort Sill, Ind. T., for duty (S. O. 179, Oct. 4, D. M.)

#### PAYMENT OF TROOPS.

Par. 1, S. O. 139, is revoked, and the following substituted therefor: Major J. B. Keefer, P. D., will pay the following named troops, to include the muster of June 30, 1877: Cos. E and L, 1st Cavalry, at Ft. Walla Walla, W. T.; Cos. D and G, 1st Cavalry (en route to the Dept. of Cal.), at or in the vicinity of Ft. Boise, I. T., and Co. A, 21st Infantry, at Indian Valley, near Fort Boise, I. T., and such other companies, detachments or enlisted men mustered to June 30, 1877, as may be found unpaid in the vicinity of those posts (S. O. 140, Sept. 27, D. C.)

#### EXAMINATIONS.

A Board of officers of the Corps of Engrs, to consist of—Col. H. W. Benham, Col. Z. B. Tower, and Lieut.-Col. Q. A. Gillmore, is to meet in N. Y. City, for the examination of the following named officers for promotion in the Corps of Engineers: 1st Lieuts. C. E. L. B. Davis and B. D. Greene; 2d Lieuts. W. T. Rossell, T. N. Bailey, and T. W. Symons (S. O., Oct. 3, W. D.)

#### GATLING GUNS.

For the purpose of instruction in the management of Gatling guns of different calibres, the two guns, calibre 50, now at Scranton, with their ammunition, will be sent to the C. O. at Mauch Chunk, Penn., and the gun, calibre 45, at Mauch Chunk, will be similarly forwarded to the C. O. at Scranton. Capt. E. M. Wright, Ordnance officer at these Hdqrs, is charged with the transfer of these guns, and will proceed, via Pittsburgh and Reading, to Mauch Chunk and Scranton, Penn. (S. O. 229, Oct. 2, M. D. A.)

#### THE LINE.

1ST CAVALRY, Colonel Cuvier Grover.—Headquarters, and E. \* H. \* L. \* Ft. Walla Walla, W. T.; A. Camp McDowell, Cal.; B. \* Fort Klamath, Oregon; C. \* Camp McDermitt, Nev.; F. \* Fort Lapwai, I. T.; L. \* Camp Halleck, Nev.; K. \* Camp Harvey, Or.; M. Fort Colville, Wash. T.; D. Presidio, Cal.; G. San Diego, Bks., Cal.

\* In the field against the Nez Percé Indians.

*Change of Station.*—Cos. D (Summer) and G (Bernard), stationed at Camp Howard, near Mount Idaho, I. T., are relieved from temporary duty in this Dept., and will return, via Fort Boise, I. T., to the Dept. of Cal., San Francisco (S. O. 140, Sept. 27, D. C.)

*Detached Service.*—2d Lieut. G. S. Hoyle, member, and 2d Lieut. C. C. Norton, J.-A. of G. C.-M. Camp W. L. English, Horse Prairie, M. T., Aug. 15 (S. F. O. 50, Aug. 15, D. C.)

*Indian Scouts.*—Par. 2, S. O. 4, Hdqrs Dist. of the Clearwater, Camp near Fort Lapwai, I. T., Sept. 14, directing Major J. Green, 1st Cav., commanding reserve column of the expedition against hostile Nez Percé Indians, Mount Idaho, I. T., to forward, under charge of a commissioned officer, all the enlisted Banock Indian scouts with his command to Fort Hall, I. T., for discharge, is confirmed (S. O. 139, Sept. 26, D. C.)

2ND CAVALRY, Colonel I. N. Palmer.—This regiment is changing station, under orders for Dept. of Dakota.

*Note.*—For account of casualties in this regiment during the recent battle with the Nez Percés, see heading "Indian Affairs."

*En Route.*—A newspaper despatch dated "Camp at Fort McKinney, W. T., Sept. 19," says: "The headquarters, non commissioned staff, band and Cos. A, B, D, E and K of the 2d Cav., en route from Fort Sanders, W. T., to the new post on the Big Horn River, in Montana, arrived here yesterday. The command left Medicine Bow, on the Union Pacific Railroad, Sept. 6, and marched thence to Fort Fetterman, which latter place it left Sept. 12. The troops are under command of Lieut.-Col. Brackett; are in excellent condition and spirits, and, with good luck, will arrive at their destination about Oct. 1. With the arrival of this part of the regiment and Cos. C and M from Camps Stambaugh and Brown, the whole regiment will be together in the Dept. of Dakota. The regiment, in parts, has been in quite a number of actions with Indians this year, and will, we have no doubt, give as good an account of itself in the Dept. of Dakota as it has in the Dept. of the Platte, where it has served so creditably for a number of years."

3RD CAVALRY, Col. Thos. C. Devin.—Headquarters, and A. D. E. F. G. Fort Laramie, Wy. T.; I. Fort Fetterman, W. T.; B. C. H. L. Camp Robinson, Neb.; M. Camp Sheridan, Neb.; K. Cheyenne Depot, W. T.

*Detached Service.*—2d Lieut. G. F. Chase, member,

G. C.-M. Fort Laramie, W. T., by par. 1 and 2, S. O. 111, from these Hdqrs (S. O. 119, Oct. 4, D. P.)

4TH CAVALRY, Col. R. S. McKenzie.—Headquarters, and A. C. D. H. K. M. Fort Sill, I. T.; G. L. Fort Reno, I. T.; E. Fort Wallace, Kas.; I. Camp Supply, I. T.; B. F. Fort Elliott, Tex.

*Leave of Absence.*—2d Lieut. H. H. Bellas, Fort Wallace, Kas., extended one month (S. O. 98, Oct. 3, D. M.)

One month, to apply for extension of one month, Capt. W. Davis, Fort Elliott, Tex. (S. O. 179, Oct. 4, D. M.)

5TH CAVALRY, Col. W. Merritt.—Headquarters, and A. B. H. I. L. Fort D. A. Russell, W. T.; C. D. E. F. G. K. M. Camp Brown, W. T.

\* In the Field.

6TH CAVALRY, Col. James Oakes.—Headquarters and C. G. M. Camp Grant, A. T.; B. Camp Lowell, A. T.; K. Fort Whipple, A. T.; H. L. Camp Bowie, A. T.; E. D. Camp Apache, A. T.; A. Camp Verde, A. T.; I. Camp McDowell, A. T.; F. Camp Thomas, A. T.

\* In camp near old Camp Wallen, A. T.

7TH CAVALRY, Colonel S. D. Sturgis.—Headquarters, and B. E. G. I. L. K. M. Ft. A. Lincoln, D. T.; A. D. H. M. Fort Rice, D. T.; C. Ft. Totten, D. T.; F. Ft. Abercrombie, D. T.

\* In the Field.

*Note.*—For account of casualties in this regiment during the recent battle with the Nez Percés, see heading "Indian Affairs."

8TH CAVALRY, Col. J. I. Gregg.—Headquarters and C. D. J. L. M. Fort Brown, Tex.; A. B. F. K. Fort Clark, Tex.; E. G. H. Ringgold Barracks, Tex.

\* Scouting.

*Detached Service.*—2d Lieut. S. W. Fountain and J. W. Pinder, members, G. C.-M. Ringgold Bks. Tex., par. 1, S. O. 140, from these Hdqrs (S. O. 171, Sept. 28, D. T.)

9TH CAVALRY, Col. Edward Hatch.—Headquarters, Santa Fe, N. M.; D. E. \* Fort Union, N. M.; I. \* Ft. Wingate, N. M.; K. Fort Garland, C. T.; F. H. M. Ft. Stanton, N. M.; A. B. C. G. Fort Bayard, N. M.; L. \* Fort Union, N. M.

\* In the Field.

*Leave of Absence.*—Two months, 1st Lieut. M. B. Hughes (S. O., Oct. 8, W. D.)

*Medical Survey.*—Lieut.-Col. G. Perin, Surg., and Major J. P. Wright, Surg., members, Board of Medical Officers to meet at Fort Garland, Colo., to examine into the condition of 1st Lieut. John Conline, 9th Cav. (S. O. 181, Oct. 6, D. M.)

10TH CAVALRY, Colonel Benjamin H. Grierson.—Headquarters and A. D. L. Ft. Concho, Tex.; G. Fort Griffin, Tex.; H. Fort Davis, Tex.; I. Ft. Richardson, Tex.; B. Fort Duncan, Tex.; E. San Felipe, Tex.; F. K. M. Ft. Clark, Tex.; C. Ft. McKavett, Tex.

\* Detached Service.—Cpts. L. L. Langdon, A. M. Randolph, W. L. Haskin, 1st Lieuts. J. C. White, I. T. Webster, G. P. Cotton, 2d Lieut. A. Murray, members, and 2d Lieut. J. Pope, Jr., J.-A. of G. C.-M. Reading, Penn., Oct. 6 (S. O. 231, Oct. 4, M. D. A.)

G. C.-M.—Before a G. C.-M. which convened at Eastern, Penn., Aug. 10, of which Capt. W. Sinclair, 3d Cav., is president, was arraigned and tried: 2d Lieut. E. Wells, 1st Art. Charge I.—"Drunk on duty, in violation of the 38th Article of War." Charge II.—"Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline." Finding, "Guilty." Sentence, "To be dismissed the service of the United States." By direction of the Secretary of War, the sentence will take effect Oct. 13, 1877, from which date he will cease to be an officer of the Army (G. C.-M. O. 65, H. Q. A.)

11TH CAVALRY.—Colonel William F. Barry.—Headquarters and A. D. M. Fort McHenry, Md.; C. E. F. G. L. Wilkesbarre, Pa.; K. Fort Monroe, Va.; I. Washington, D. C.; B. Fort Foote, Md.

*Change of Station.*—Bat. M (Pennington's) is relieved from duty at Pittsburg, Penn., and will proceed to, and take post at, Fort McHenry, Md. (S. O. 230, Oct. 3, M. D. A.)

12TH CAVALRY, Colonel George W. Getty.—Headquarters, Ft. Hamilton, N. Y. H.; A. Ft. Monroe, Va.; B. F. H. K. Scranton, Pa.; C. Wilkesbarre, Pa.; D. E. L. I. M. Mach Chunk, Pa.; G. Fort Schuyler, N. Y.

*Leave of Absence.*—1st Lieut. A. G. Verplanck, extended twenty-three days (S. O. 233, Oct. 8, M. D. A.)

13TH CAVALRY, Col. W. H. French.—Headquarters, B. C. Presidio, Cal.; H. K. L. Alcatraz Isl., Cal.; E. M. \* Fort Stevens, Or.; D. \* G. \* Fort Canby, Wash. T.; I. Ft. Monroe, Va.; A. \* Fort Townsend, W. T.; F. Ft. San Jose, Cal.

\* In the field against the Nez Percé Indians.

*Detached Service.*—Major A. P. Howe, Capts. H. C. Hasbrouck, F. G. Smith, 1st Lieut. J. W. Roder, Regt. Adjt., 2d Lieuts. J. L. Wilson, W. Crozier, members, and 2d Lieut. J. T. French, Jr., J.-A. of G. C.-M. San Francisco, Cal., Sept. 25 (S. O. 118, Sept. 22, M. D. P.)

1st Lieut. C. F. Humphrey, member, G. C.-M. Camp W. L. English, Horse Prairie, M. T., Aug. 15 (S. O. 50, Aug. 15, D. C.)

14TH CAVALRY, Col. Henry J. Hunt.—Headquarters and E. F. 1. Charlton, S. C.; A. K. St. Augustine, Fla.; B. D. E. I. M. Wilkesbarre, Pa.; L. Fort Barrancas, Fla.; G. H. Ft. Brooke, Fla.; C. Ft. Monroe, Va.

\* In the field against the Nez Percé Indians.

15TH CAVALRY, Col. Thomas G. Pitcher.—Headquarters and A. C. E. I. Ft. Randall, D. T.; D. F. Lower Brule Agency; E. G. H. K. Ft. Sully, D. T.

\* In the Field.

16TH CAVALRY, Colonel Frank Wheaton.—Headquarters and A. B. D. E. F. G. Camp near Fort Lapwai, I. T.; H. I. M. Idaho, I. T., in camp; C. E. Talouise City, W. T., in camp.

*Detached Service.*—Cpts. H. C. Cook, W. Mills, W. Falck, C. Keller, 1st Lieuts. A. Haines, Jr., H. B. Larson, 2d Lieuts. J. K. Waring, J. Kinzie, members, and 1st Lieut. J. Miller, J.-A. of G. C.-M. Fort Lapwai, Idaho T., Oct. 4 (S. O. 136, Sept. 21, D. C.)

17TH CAVALRY, Colonel De L. Floyd-Jones.—Headquarters Virginia City, M. T., ordered to Department Dakota.

4TH INFANTRY, Colonel Franklin F. Flint.—Headquarters and G. K. Fort Bridger, W. T.; A. Fort Fred Steele, W. T.; C. F. Ft. Fetterman, W. T.; D. Omaha Bks., Neb.; B. E. I. Cantonment Reno, W. T.; H. Camp Stambaugh.

5TH INFANTRY, Colonel Nelson A. Miles.—Headquarters and A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. K. Canton Tongue River, M. T.

*Note.*—For account of casualties in this regiment during the recent battle with the Nez Percés, see heading "Indian Affairs."

*Leave of Absence.*—One month, to take effect when his services can be spared, Capt. J. S. Casey, Tongue River Bks., to apply for extension of five months (S. O. 132, Oct. 1, D. D.)

Six months, Capt. A. S. Bennett (S. O., Oct. 8, W. D.)

6TH INFANTRY, Colonel William B. Hazen.—Headquarters and C. D. E. F. G. I. Ft. Buford, D. T.; A. Fort Rice; B. Ft. Abraham Lincoln, D. T.; H. Fort Stevenson, D. T.

*Change of Station.*—Lieut.-Col. D. Huston, Jr., is relieved from duty at Fort Stevenson, and will proceed to the Hdqrs of his regiment at Fort Buford, and take station. Upon the arrival of Lieut.-Col. Huston, Major O. H. Moore will be relieved, and will proceed to Fort Stevenson, and take station (S. O. 132, Oct. 1, D. D.)

*Leave of Absence.*—One month, to take effect upon or after the return of 2d Lieut. R. E. Thompson, to duty with his company, 1st Lieut. D. L. Craft, Fort Stevenson, to apply for extension of six months (S. O. 135, Oct. 5, D. D.)

7TH INFANTRY, Col. John Gibbon.—Headquarters, and A. B. G. H. I. K. Fort Shaw, M. T.; C. Fort Ellis, M. T.; D. E. Camp Baker, M. T.; F. Fort Benton, M. T.

*Detached Service.*—Capt. G. L. Browning, 2d Lieut. J. T. Van Orsdel, members, G. C.-M. Camp W. L. English, Horse Prairie, M. T., Aug. 15 (S. F. O. 50, Aug. 15, D. C.)

The various organizations of volunteers of Montana Territory having returned home or disbanded, and it being now impracticable for 1st Lieut. H. M. Benson, 7th Inf., to carry out the instructions given him by Col. J. Gibbon, 7th Inf., he is temporarily assigned to duty with Capt. R. Norwood's company, L. 2d Cav. (S. F. O. 52, Aug. 18, D. C.)

8TH INFANTRY, Col. August V. Kautz.—Headquarters, Prescott, A. T.; F. Fort Whipple, A. T.; A. B. Camp Verde, A. T.; C. Camp McDowell, A. T.; K. Camp Lowell, A. T.; E. G. Camp Apache, A. T.; H. Ft. Yuma, Cal.; I. Op. Grant, A. T.; D. Camp Thomas, A. T.

9TH INFANTRY, Col. John H. King.—Headquarters and B. D. F. H. I. K. Omaha Barrack, Neb.; C. Ft. Laramie, W. T.; G. Camp Robinson, Neb.; E. Cantonment Reno, W. T.; A. North Platte, Neb.

*Detached Service.*—2d Lieut. H. DeLany, member, G. C.-M. Fort Laramie, W. T., by pars. 1 and 2, S. O. 111, from these Hdqrs (S. O. 119, Oct. 4, D. P.)

10TH INFANTRY, Colonel Henry B. Clitz.—Headquarters and A. B. C. F. I. \* Fort McKavett, Texas; D. Fort McIntosh, Tex.; E. San Antonio, Tex.; G. H. \* K. \* Fort Clark, Tex.

\* In the Field.

*Leave of Absence.*—1st Lieut. J. T. Kirkman, extended six days, Fort Clark, Tex. (S. O. 170, Sept. 27, D. T.)

G. C.-M.—Before a G. C.-M. which convened at Fort Clark, Tex., Aug. 8, of which Major A. J. Alexander, 8th Cav., is president, was arraigned and tried: Capt. J. B. Parke, 10th Inf. Charge I.—"Disobedience of orders." Charge II.—"Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline." Charge III.—"Conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman." The accused was found not guilty of the first two charges and specifications, guilty of the 3d charge and sentenced, "To be dismissed the service." In consideration of his previous good character, as shown in evidence, and the fact that the misbehavior of which he has been convicted appears to have been induced by an inebriation not habitual to him, the penalty imposed by the sentence is commuted by the President to "suspension from rank and command and half pay for six months." By direction of the Secretary of War, the sentence as mitigated will take effect Oct. 22, 1877 (G. C.-M. O. 64, H. Q. A.)

11TH INFANTRY, Colonel William H. Wood.—Headquarters and A. D. E. G. I. K. Cheyenne Agency, D. T.; H. Tongue River Canti., M. T.; B. C. F. Post No. 3, M. T.

*Leave of Absence.*—One month, to apply for extension of five months, Capt. W. C. Beach, Cheyenne Agency, D. T. (S. O. 135, Oct. 5, D. D.)

12TH INFANTRY, Colonel Orlando B. Willcox.—Headquarters and B. E. G. I. K. Angel Island, Cal.; A. Camp Mojave, A. T.; C. D. Fort Yuma, Cal.; E. Camp Gaston, Cal.; G. I. Camp McDermitt, Nev.; F. H. Camp Halleck, Nev.

*Change of Station.*—Cos. B (Egbert) and F (Byrne), stationed near Mount Idaho, Idaho T., are relieved from temporary duty in this Dept., and will return, via Walla Walla, Columbia river, and ocean steamer, to the Dept. of Cal., San Francisco. The companies have been assigned to stations as follows: B. Angel Island, and F. Camp Halleck (S. O. 138, Sept. 25, D. C.)

Co. D (MacGowan), stationed at Lewiston, Idaho T., is relieved from temporary duty in this Dept., and will return, via Walla Walla, Columbia river, and ocean steamer, to the Dept. of Cal. This company has been assigned station at Fort Yuma (S. O. 138, Sept. 25, D. C.)

13TH INFANTRY, Colonel P. R. de Trobriand.—Headquarters and A. Scranton, Pa.; B. F. H. K. Wilkesbarre Pa.; C. E. I. Pittsburg, Pa.; D. G. Lake Charles, La.

14TH INFANTRY, Col. John E. Smith.—Headquarters and D. E. G. I. Camp Douglas, Utah; B. F. Camp Robinson, Neb.; A. Fort Hall, Idaho; H. Fort Cameron, U. T.; K. Fort Hartsuff; C. Camp Sheridan, Neb.

*Leave of Absence.*—Fifteen days, Capt. S. McConihe, Fort Cameron, Utah (S. O. 119, Oct. 4, D. P.)

15TH INFANTRY, Col. Geo. A. Woodward.—Headquarters and D. K. Ft. Wingate, N. M.; B. Ft. Garland, C. T.; A. G. Fort Craig, N. M.; C. F. Ft. Union, N. M.; E. Fort Bayard, N. M.; H. Ft. Stanton, N. M.; I. Ft. Mazy, N. M.

16TH INFANTRY, Colonel G. Pennypacker.—Headqrs. A. C. H. Fort Riley, Kas.; E. I. Fort Reno, I. T.; B. D. Fort Bill, I. T.; G. Fort Hayes, Kas.; K. Fort Gibson, I. T.; F. Fort Wallace, Kas.

17TH INFANTRY, Colonel Thomas L. Crittenden.—Headquarters and A, B, C, D, E, F, I, K, Standing Rock Ay., D. T.; G, Fort A. Lincoln, D. T.; H, Fort Rice, D. T.

*Change of Station.*—Par. 18, S. O. 124, from these Hdqrs, is modified so as to direct that Co. C (McArthur's), upon being relieved from duty at Fort Sisseton, proceed to, and take post at, Standing Rock, instead of Fort A. Lincoln (S. O. 132, Oct. 1, D. D.)

Capt. M. McArthur will report at the expiration of his leave of absence at Fort Abercrombie, and will there await the arrival of his company, now supposed to be en route from Fort Sisseton, via Abercrombie, under orders for change of station to Standing Rock (S. O. 135, Oct. 5, D. D.)

*Detached Service.*—Capt. E. Collins, 1st Lieuts. T. G. Troxel, R. Q. M., C. S. Roberts, C. H. Greene, 2d Lieuts. G. H. Roach, A. E. Kilpatrick, members, and Capt. C. E. Bennett, J. A. of G. C. M. Standing Rock Agency, D. T., Oct. 11 (S. O. 134, Oct. 4, D. D.)

*Leave of Absence.*—One month, 2d Lieut. J. D. Nickerson, Standing Rock Agency, D. T., to apply for extension of one month (S. O. 135, Oct. 5, D. D.)

*Revoked.*—So much of par. 17, S. O. 124, as relates to Co. D (Clarke's), is revoked (S. O. 132, Oct. 1, D. D.)

*Indian Supplies.*—2d Lieut. G. H. Roach is to witness at the Standing Rock Indian Agency "each delivery of beef and other supplies" for the Indians, and "to inspect, attest and report on the quantity, quality and delivery of the annuity goods" purchased for that agency, vice 1st Lieut. J. Bannister, 20th Inf., relieved (S. O. 132, Oct. 1, D. D.)

18TH INFANTRY, Colonel Thomas H. Ruger.—Headquarters and D, G, H, Alleghany Arsenal, Pittsburg, Pa.; A, Chattanooga, Tenn.; B, Indianapolis, Ind.; C, Jeffersontown, Ind.; E, K, Pittsburg, Pa.; F, Atlanta, Ga.; I, Scranton, Pa.

*Leave of Absence.*—One month, to take effect when his services can be spared, to apply for extension of one month, 2d Lieut. G. L. Turner, Allegheny Arsenal, Pittsburg, Penn. (S. O. 233, Oct. 8, M. D. A.)

19TH INFANTRY, Colonel Charles H. Smith.—Headquarters and E, H, K, Ft Lyon, C. T.; F, G, Ft Dodge, Kas.; D, Fort Larned, Kas.; C, I, Fort Elliott, Tex.; A, B, Camp Supply, I. T.

*Leave of Absence.*—2d Lieut. J. A. Payne, Camp Supply, Ind. T., extended seven days (S. O. 178, Oct. 1, D. M.)

Major H. A. Hambright, still further extended five days (S. O., Oct. 8, W. D.)

20TH INFANTRY, Colonel Geo. Sykes.—Headquarters and B, G, Fort Snelling, Minn.; A, E, Fort Sisseton, D. T.; D, F, I, Fort Pembina, D. T.; C, H, K, Fort Totten, D. T.

21ST INFANTRY,\* Colonel Alfred Sully.—Headquarters and D, E, I, Fort Vancouver, W. T.; K, Camp Harney, Or.; B, H, Ft Walla Walla, W. T.; C, Ft Townsend, W. T.; F, Fort Klamath, Or.; G, Fort Lapwai, I. T.; A, Fort Boise, L. T. \* In the field against the Nez Perce Indians.

22ND INFANTRY, Colonel David S. Stanley.—Headquarters and A, B, C, E, F, G, H, I, Wilkesbarre, Pa.; K, Fort Brady, Mich.; D, Fort Wayne, Mich.

*Change of Station.*—Major A. L. Hough will proceed from Fort Mackinac, Mich., to Wilkesbarre, Penn., for duty at that point (S. O. 230, Oct. 3, M. D. A.)

*Leave of Absence.*—Twenty days, to take effect when his services can be spared, 1st Lieut. C. C. Cusick, Wilkesbarre, Penn. (S. O. 232, Oct. 6, M. D. A.)

23RD INFANTRY, Colonel Jeff. C. Davis.—Headquarters and A, C, D, E, F, G, I, K, Fort Leavenworth, Kas.; H, Fort Gibson, I. T.; B, Fort Dodge, Kas.

*Leave of Absence.*—2d Lieut. C. D. Cowles, further extended one month (S. O., Oct. 8, W. D.)

24TH INFANTRY, Colonel Joseph H. Potter.—Headquarters and A, D, Fort Clark, Tex.; E, H, Fort Brown, Tex.; C, G, I, K, Ringgold Barracks, Tex.; B, F, Fort Duncan, Tex.

*Leave of Absence.*—Capt. F. M. Crandal, further extended two months (S. O., Oct. 8, W. D.)

25TH INFANTRY, Colonel George L. Andrew.—Headquarters and A, H, I, Fort Davis, Tex.; C, D, F, Fort Stockton, Tex.; B, E, K, Ft Clark, Tex.; G, Ft Concho, Tex.

*Casualties among the Commissioned Officers of the U. S. Army reported to the Adjutant-General's Office during the week ending Saturday, October 6, 1877.*

1st Lieut. Alexander O. Brodie, 1st Cavalry—Resigned September 30, 1877.

*Officers Registered.*—At Hdqrs Mil. Div. Atlantic, Oct. 9: 2d Lieut. R. E. Thompson, 6th Inf.; Capt. J. P. Sanger, 1st Art.; 1st Lieut. C. W. Harrold, 3d Art.; Col. H. B. Clitz, 10th Cav.; 1st Lieut. W. S. Clark, 2d Cav.; Capt. L. L. Livingston, 3d Art.; Capt. W. M. Waterbury, 13th Inf.; 2d Lieut. B. H. Gilman, 13th Inf.; Lieut.-Col. H. A. Morrow, 13th Inf.; Capt. J. J. Van Horn, 8th Inf.; Lieut.-Col. C. E. Blunt, Corps of Engrs.; 1st Lieut. J. B. Eaton, 3d Art.; Capt. W. Ludlow, Engr. Corps; 2d Lieut. J. E. H. Foster, 3d Cav.; Lieut.-Col. J. M. Brannan, 1st Art.

*INTERNATIONAL COURTESIES.*—The Winnipeg (Manitoba) Standard says: Col. F. U. Farquhar, of the United States Engineers, who is in charge of the surveys and expenditure for the improvement of the Red River of the North, was accompanied, on a recent tour of inspection, by Col. A. D. Nelson and Major Morgan, United States officers of the Department of Dakota; Hon. Mr. Williams, M. C., of Detroit, Michigan, and Judge Flandreau, of St. Paul. As the party also included Mesdames Farquhar, Nelson and Flandreau, the trip was extended to Winnipeg, and during their visit they received many courtesies from our citizens, including receptions by the lieutenant-governor and Mrs. Morris, at Government House, and their excellencies at Silver Heights.

THE dangers attending the use of torpedoes was illustrated by the discovery, September 11, of a truant torpedo fished up in the harbor of Portsmouth, England. It was rusty, and had evidently been in the water some time. Nothing is known of its origin.

### INDIAN AFFAIRS.

#### THE SURRENDER OF CHIEF JOSEPH.

THE following official despatches relating to Indian hostilities have passed during the present week:

FORT BENTON, MONTANA, Oct. 7, VIA  
HELENA MONTANA, Oct. 9.

To Lieut.-General P. H. Sheridan:

After five days of severe fighting in the Bear Paw Mountains, Chief Joseph surrendered to Gen. Nelson A. Miles, at 3 o'clock on Oct. 5.

The following is Gen. Miles's official despatch:

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF YELLOWSTONE,  
CAMP ON EAGLE CREEK, M. T., October 5.

General A. H. Terry, Commanding the Department of Dakota:

DEAR GENERAL: We have had our usual success. We made a very direct and rapid march across the country, and after a severe engagement, and being kept under fire for three days, the hostile camp of Nez Percés, under Chief Joseph, surrendered at 9 o'clock to-day. I intend to start the 3d Cavalry toward Benton on the 7th instant. Cannot supplies be sent out on the Benton road to meet them and return with the remainder of the command to the Yellowstone? I hear that there is trouble between the Sioux and the Canadian authorities. I remain, General, very truly yours,

NELSON A. MILES.

Colonel and Brevet Major-General U. S. Army commanding.

A. H. TERRY, Brigadier-General.

FORT BENTON, MONTANA, Oct. 5.

To Lieut.-General P. H. Sheridan:

The following despatch from Gen. Miles was received by me here, at 11 o'clock this morning:

HEADQUARTERS DIST. OF THE YELLOWSTONE,  
CAMP NEAR THE BEAR PAW MOUNTAINS, Oct. 8, 1877.

Gen. A. H. Terry, Commanding Department of Dakota:

GENERAL: This command moved rapidly to Snake Creek, striking a fresh trail of the hostile Nez Percés coming out of the Bear Paw Mountains. At 7 o'clock on the 30th ult. we met and surprised a camp, at 8 o'clock capturing the larger part of their herd, about 600 horses, mules and ponies. The engagement was quite severe and enclosed is the list of our killed and wounded. The Indians lost seventeen killed, including Looking Glass and Joseph's brother, and three other chiefs and forty wounded. Joseph gave me his solemn pledge yesterday that he would surrender, but did not, and they are evidently waiting for aid from other Indians. They say that the Sioux are coming to their aid. They are closely invested in some deep ravines and kept under fire; to take them by assault would cost too many lives. I may wear them out and eventually compel them to give up. They fight with more desperation than any Indians I ever met. I believe there are many escaped villains in the village who expect to be hanged when caught. I believe there is communication between this camp and Sitting Bull, and I have used every effort to prevent a junction. I am expecting the companies with Sturges, and will then endeavor to send the 3d Cavalry companies to Benton. I presume you do not wish them withdrawn when surrounding the Nez Percés camp. I intend to send my wounded to the Missouri, and captured stock to the Yellowstone. I would respectfully suggest that information be sent to the British authorities to prevent any portion of the Nez Percés tribe from crossing the line, or to disarm them should they take refuge on English soil. Can supplies be sent up the Milk River road for the 3d Cavalry? Please send me any information or orders that should govern my movements. Very respectfully your obedient servant,

NELSON A. MILES, Colonel 5th Infantry, Brevet Major U. S. A., Commanding.

The following is a list of the casualties:

SEVENTH CAVALRY, OFFICERS, killed.—Capt. Owen Hale and 2d Lieut. Joseph W. Biddle. Wounded—Captains Myles Moyle and Edward S. Godfrey.

ENLISTED MEN, Co. A, killed—1st Sergeant George McDermott, Sergt. Otto Derslow, and Privates John E. Cleveland, Lewis Kelly, and Samuel McIntyre. Wounded—Sergeant Thomas E. Godman; Trumpeter James E. Christopher; Privates Daniel S. Wright, Howard, Weaver, Thomas Denning, Charles Miller, Michael Gilbert, George W. Savage, and James Farrell.

Co. D, killed—1st Sergeant Michael Martin; Sergeant James M. Albert; Privates Rander and Dawsey. Wounded—Sergeant Charles H. Welch; Corp. John Quinn; Trumpeter Thomas Herwood; Blacksmith Frederick Dettlein; Privates James Clark, John Curran, Uriah S. Lewis, James S. Johnson, and David E. Baker.

Co. G, killed—Private Irving. Co. K, killed—1st Sergt. Otto Wildo; Sergeants Max Meilke and H. W. Rachael; Privates Wm. Whitelaw, Francis Roth, George Hendrick, and Frank Knapp. Wounded—Sergeant John Nolan; Corporal Michael Delany; Privates Peter Allen, Michael Murphy, John H. Magee, John Scherer, John Myers, John Schoner, Emil Taube, and Charles Smith.

Co. M, wounded—Sioux Indian Hump and Cheyenne Indian White Wolf.

SECOND CAVALRY, Co. F, wounded—Private John Ferrone.

FIFTH INFANTRY, OFFICERS, wounded—1st Lieut. and Adjutant George W. Baird; 1st Lieut. Henry Romey, A. A. A.-G.

ENLISTED MEN, Co. B, killed—Corp. John Hadd. Co. D, wounded—Sergeant James A. Cable; Privates Louis Gensler, Patrick McCann, John Andrews, and Nicholas B. Ward.

Co. E, killed—Private George Hagan.

Co. G, killed—Pvt. Richard M. Pechold. Wounded—2d Class Hospital Steward Jean Baptiste Galleune.

Co. I, killed—Private James Kahr. Wounded—Sergeant George Krager; Musician Jesse O'Neill; Private Daniel Hogan.

I learn from the scout Bucknow, who brought Gen. Miles's despatch, that the battle took place on Snake Creek, about eight miles above its mouth. He thinks Gen. Miles's force consisted of three companies of the 2d Cavalry, three of the 7th Cavalry, and eight of the 5th Infantry. He also thinks that none of the officers reported wounded are fatally injured. Gen. Sturges, whose arrival Gen. Miles expected, must have with him seven companies of his regiment. The three companies of the 2d Cavalry with Gen. Miles were originally intended as an escort to the Commission to meet Sitting Bull. To keep the companies with him (Miles) another escort was provided. This last escort will now be used to convey a train of wagons which will leave in the morning for Snake Creek with supplies. I have assumed the responsibility of notifying Col. McLeod, the Commissioner of the Canadian Police, of the situation, and of inviting his attention to the import-

ance of preventing Sitting Bull and his followers from crossing the line.

A. H. TERRY, Brigadier-General.

The brief and modest despatch of General Miles, printed above, in which he records the capture of the band of Nez Percés Indians under Chief Joseph, Looking Glass and White Bird, contains no particulars of the fight, but one of the special correspondents of the New York *Herald*, present with the command, has managed to forward a very graphic and spirited account of the matter, from which we extract some special features of interest. It appears from this narrative that the Nez Percés acted with a heroism and magnanimity totally unlike anything usually recorded of Indian warfare. Their long previous friendship with the whites, and the fact that many of them had been educated in schools in which the English language was taught, seems to have given them a sort of community of feeling with their antagonists, more like that prevailing among civilized soldiers than the usual ferocious spirit of Indian warfare. At the time of the surrender they had but 160 warriors left in the band, encumbered by the presence of nearly 200 women and children, and yet they fought with such desperation that it is possible that all General Miles's force of thirteen companies could not have forcibly dislodged them from their position, although it could prevent their escape. The terrible loss of the 7th Cavalry and 5th Infantry in the first charge on the Indian camp, attended as it was with the advantages of a surprise, shows this; but the wisdom of General Miles's dispositions made his ultimate success certain, even after the repulse of the first charge of the troops. It was secured by the action of the 2d Cavalry detachment of three companies, which captured the Indian herd of ponies by a sudden dash, drove them off, and at once worked round to the rear of the Indian camp. The three companies of the 7th Cavalry, under Captain Owen Hale, at the same time assaulted the camp in front by a desperate charge, the fighting taking place among the tepees and being perfectly murderous in its character. While it was at its hottest, the 5th Infantry, mounted on Indian ponies, arrived, dismounted, poured one volley into the midst of the camp, covering the dismounted cavalry, who were getting the worst of it under the magazine rifles of the Indians, and then charged in turn, driving the Nez Percés to cover. General Miles, who was in the thickest of the fire all the time, watching and directing everything, then recalled the troops from the useless assault, and contented himself with a surround of the Indians, which he seems to have made complete and effectual.

Then the siege began, and lasted over night into the next day. During the night, General Miles succeeded in bringing up a 12-pounder and a breech-loading 3 inch rifle, which were placed in position covering the Indian camp. The Indians entrenched themselves in regular civilized style, and dug ample shelters for their women and children. The correspondent assures us that this had been their invariable practice at every previous encampment during the march, as far as found. During this first night of the siege several incidents occurred which sound incredible when contrasted with the usual ferocity of Indian warfare. It seems that the Nez Percés did not mutilate or kill any of the wounded soldiers left in their camp, though they prowled all over the field, and generally took away the arms and valuables of the soldiers that they found, while in some instances they gave blankets and water to the wounded whites. The first night of the siege was unusually cold and the wounded suffered severely; but the correspondent records that the heroism displayed by both sides at this time and throughout the siege was wonderful. One soldier, lying by a Nez Percé chief in the American camp, refused to let the surgeon take his arm off, till he had amputated the chief's leg, saying that the chief was a boaster, and that he could bear the pain as well as the Indian. The Indians, in turn, seem to have vied with the whites in the exhibition of courage. In the second day's fight, when Gen. Miles, in full sight and hearing, ordered a charge, one of the Nez Percés defied the attack, calling out in English, "You ain't fighting Sioux." The siege proceeded in scientific style, once commenced, and though sixty-seven officers and men were killed or wounded in the first day's charge, only four casualties occurred in pushing the rifle pits towards the Indians.

On the second day, Chief Joseph visited General Miles's camp, and the General, detaining him as a hostage, sent Lieutenant Jerome, of the 2d Cavalry, into Joseph's camp, to reconnoiter and report on its condition. For a little while, it seemed as if both hostages might suffer for their boldness, but it is on record that White Bird, the second in command in the Indian camp, treated Lieutenant Jerome with great kindness, and kept him under shelter from the bullets of his own friends. At last Joseph and Jerome were exchanged, and on the 5th of October Joseph made a treaty to surrender his command as prisoners of war, which was faithfully observed. General Miles personally receiving the arms and trophies of the chiefs. It seems that some of Joseph's scouts succeeded in escaping to Sitting Bull during the siege, but could not get back. Hence Joseph, nearly starving and in despair of help, surrendered, and closed the Nez Percé war.

#### THE VISITING INDIANS.

The New York reporters following the Indians up Broadway describe their visit to the Grand Central Hotel as follows:

It was noticed, as they drove up to the house, that Young-Man-Afraid-of-his-Horses was the only Indian who had a box seat. The crowd, including men with sandwich advertisements and boot-blacks with their boxes swung over their shoulders, pressed into the corridor after the noble savages, who stalked in solemnly, Spotted Tail, Red Cloud, Little Wound, Yellow Bear, American Horse, Young-Man-Afraid, Three Bears, Little Big Man, He Dog, Iron Crow, Swift Bear,

White Tail, Ring Thunder, Little Hawk, Sword, Good Voice, Hollow Horn Bear, Big Hand, Touch the Clouds, and Spotted Tail, Jr., of the Sioux; the three Arapahoes, Friday, Sharp Nose, and Black Coal, and the interpreters, William Hunter, Leon Pallady, Antoine Janis, and Joe Merrivale, the special interpreter of the mighty Spotted Tail, the ruler of all the Sioux. Their costumes were varied and incongruous, but their appearance from a short distance was picturesque enough to satisfy all existing impressions of what the noble savage is. All of them have soft felt hats, and some wore them, while others were bare-headed, and most of them braid their coarse black hair into two long strings behind, which they wrap in otter fur. They showed a partiality for checked shirts and ordinary waistcoats, and they all wore loose pantaloons of flannel or cloth, beaded and trimmed by their squaws, and brass rings and jingling trinkets—so many of these, indeed, that some of them, notably Young-Man-Afraid-of-his-Horses, suggested carillons out of tune as they stalked through the corridors. Two of the savages were impressive above all others—Spotted Tail, who said nothing, but walked in silence most of the afternoon up and down the hallway nearest his room, and Red Cloud, who was just a shade more sociable—the former tall and forbidding in aspect, the latter equally tall and heavier, with a face that is quite good-humored. Both wore the cloaks of dark-blue cloth, beaded, constantly, and Red Cloud wore, with great dignity, a red bandana handkerchief wrapped like a turban about his head.

Friday described his experiences with delight. He had been to the aquarium; oh, yes: the hippopotamus was nice; he had not spent any of his money, but he was going to buy some things for the squaws. When they were summoned to dinner they soberly walked in single file to the elevator. Two or three children met them in the hallway, and one blonde little girl held up her hand for each chieftain to shake as he passed; each bent down and said "How," and grasped the small hand—all except Young-Man-Afraid-of-his-Horses, who is certainly afraid of girls. He wore his soft felt hat at dinner. After dinner, when they returned to their rooms, some went to sleep upon the floors, and others tried what beds were like. In one small apartment Swift Bear lay with the bed-clothes abdicated about his neck, while Red Bear hung over the foot of the bed with his head peacefully resting on the rung of a chair. In a corner of the room Touch-the-Cloud lay sprawled at full length upon the floor, clasping a red cuspidor lovingly, while his knees were embraced by Red Bear. In another room Spotted Tail had curled up, and White Tail lay in his doorway in such a position as to prevent the opening of the door. Whenever an incautious visitor turned the handle and pushed the door gently, the sleeping Indian moved his head wearily, and let it fall back as the door was closed. Man-Afraid-of-his-Horses slept with one eye open, but did not wish to be disturbed, and Little Big Chief was so muffled up in his bed-clothes as to show only the back of his interesting head.

#### AFFAIRS ON THE RIO GRANDE.

The following despatches have passed during the week relating to the difficulties on the Rio Grande:

CHICAGO, October 7.

To Gen. E. D. Townsend, Adj't.-Gen., Washington, D. C.:

The following despatch, forwarded by Col. Andrews from Fort Davis, was received last night from General Ord:

Lieutenant Rucker, at El Paso, some days ago reported the trouble at San Elizario and was ordered by me to report on the disturbances. Subsequently I gave an order to send thirty cavalrymen that were escorting a surveying party to strengthen him. The trouble is with our own population and about the location of the lands on which there are salt lakes. I have no reason to believe that any citizen of Mexico have taken part in the troubles, but the population of El Paso County is wholly composed of citizens of Mexican birth.

P. H. SHERIDAN, Lieut.-General.

PORT DAVIS, TEX., Oct. 4.

To the Adj't.-General, Dept. of Texas:

I am requested by Judge Bleecker to send the following:

The Mexican population of El Paso have risen en masse and seized all the civil authorities, Judges Howard and McBride, and hold all of them prisoners in jail. The rioters numbered about four hundred under arms; they have scouts and pickets out and sentinels posted. They seem to be well organized. All the Americans in the county, numbering about thirty, are in peril of their lives. No American is allowed to communicate with the prisoners. The rioters are expecting aid from volunteers from the Mexican side of the Rio Grande. The trouble is through Zimmerman's having located the salt lakes, and through Howard, who prohibited the getting of salt without permission.

LATER.—The Sheriff has escaped. Col Hatch is expected in El Paso. The call is for at least two companies, with artillery. I have at this post, all told, 123 fighting men. I think Louis Cordiz is behind all.

G. S. ANDREWS, Colonel Commanding.

ENGLISH experiments prove that when standing on its ordinary carriage and fired at 2,600 yards, the 6.3 howitzer has an average error of 63 yards in range, whereas when weighted with about three tons of iron the error is reduced to 34 yards, is further reduced to a mean error of 11 yards only when the howitzer is lashed to a fixed platform. These results show the importance of firmly bedding the gun before discharge, and partly to reduce the jumping tendency the howitzers of later manufacture have had the jacket and trunnions carried forward as far as possible, while the chase also has been made heavier and stronger, to resist the enemy's fire.

#### THE NAVY.

RUTHERFORD B. HAYES, President and Com'der-in-Chief  
RICHARD W. THOMPSON, Secretary of the Navy.

##### BUREAUS OF THE NAVY DEPARTMENT.

YARDS AND DOCKS—Rear-Admiral Jno. C. Howell.  
NAVIGATION—Commodore Daniel Ammen.  
EQUIPMENT AND RECRUITING—Commodore R. W. Shufeldt.  
ORDNANCE—Captain Wm. N. Jeffers.  
MEDICINE AND SURGERY—Surgeon-General Wm. Grier.  
PROVISIONS AND CLOTHING—P. M. G. Jas. H. Watmough.  
STEAM ENGINEERING—Eng.-in-Chief Wm. H. Shock.  
CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR—Chief Constructor John W. Esby.

##### FLAG OFFICERS AFLOAT.

EUROPEAN STATION—Rear-Admiral W. E. Le Roy.  
ASIA STATION—Rear-Admiral Wm. Reynolds.  
NORTH PACIFIC—Rear-Admiral Alex. Murray.  
SOUTH PACIFIC—Rear-Admiral Geo. H. Preble.  
SOUTH ATLANTIC—Commodore Edw. T. Nichols.  
NORTH ATLANTIC—Rear-Admiral S. D. Trenchard.

##### FLAG OFFICERS ON SHORE DUTY.

NAVAL OBSERVATORY—Rear-Admiral John Rodgers, Supt.  
NAVAL ASYLUM, PHILADELPHIA—Rear-Admiral J. R. M. Mullany.

NAVAL ACADEMY—Rear-Admiral C. R. P. Rodgers.

##### COMMANDANTS NAVY YARDS.

Commodore E. R. Colhoun, Navy-yard, Mare Island.  
Commodore Foxhall A. Parker, Boston, Mass.  
Commodore J. W. A. Nicholson, " New York.  
Commodore John C. Febiger, " Washington, D. C.  
Commodore J. Blakely Creighton, " Norfolk, Va.  
Captain Clark H. Wells, " League Island, Penn.  
Commodore John Guest, " Portsmouth, N. H.  
Captain George E. Belknap, " Pensacola, Fla.  
Commodore D. McNeill Fairfax, " New London.

#### VARIOUS NAVAL ITEMS.

The Secretary of the Navy returned to Washington on the 8th October, from Indiana.

The *Tallapoosa* has improved her speed nearly one knot by receiving new wheels.

The *Ossipee* arrived at New London, Conn., Oct. 4, sailing thence for Newport, Boston, and Portland.

CAPT. SAMUEL H. CARTER, U. S. N., was married recently to Miss Martha Curtis Williams, of Georgetown, a cousin to Gen. Lee.

The old frigate *Constitution*, practice ship at the Naval Academy at Annapolis, has been ordered to Norfolk to go into the dry dock and have her bottom sheathed.

The *Portsmouth* will be ready to leave San Francisco about the 15th of October for the Atlantic coast. She goes around Cape Horn and may make the passage without touching at any port.

The *Adams* expects to leave Montevideo about the 1st November, for Valparaiso, the South Pacific station, to which she is to be attached, unless some emergency should require a longer stay on the East coast.

The British bark *Edward Albro*, from Cape Town, Africa, has arrived at the Brooklyn Navy yard, and landed the guns and carriages of the U. S. ship *Fantic*, which she was chartered to bring home.

COMMANDER H. D. MANLEY reports the arrival of the *Ranger*, under his command, at Hong Kong, Aug. 24, from which place he will proceed, Sept. 1, to Nagasaki, Japan. He reports all well on board.

The *Plymouth* has gone up to the Navy-yard at Norfolk to be caulked. Her decks leak very seriously, and the caulking has worked out in many places from her sides—due to decay and consequent shrinkage.

CHIEF ENGINEER ROBT. L. HARRIS arrived at his home in Washington on the 5th October, having been detached from the *Plymouth*, after a full three years' cruise. There has been almost an entire change in the officers of the *Plymouth*, as most of them had served the usual period at sea.

The training ship *Saratoga*, Lieut.-Comdr. Evans, arrived at Norfolk on the 5th October, from Hampton Roads. Lieut.-Comdr. Evans has given public notice that the *Saratoga* is in port for the enlistment of boys to serve in the Navy until they are 21 years of age, in pursuance of the regulations on the subject.

The *Fantic*, in tow of the *Fortune*, left Norfolk Oct. 9, for Washington. All her equipments are to be placed on board, such as sails, spars, etc., and the new boilers which have been made for her are to be stowed on board and placed in her at Washington, when the old ones will be removed.

The *Hartford* left the Norfolk yard for Farewell Buoy, Oct. 1. Commodore Nichols was in Washington on the 8th October, to receive his final instructions, and as soon as the *Hartford* is inspected she will proceed to her station—Rio de Janeiro. The officers of the *Hartford* gave a farewell hop at Norfolk.

COMMO. A. K. HUGHES, commanding station at Port Royal, reports officially the existence of yellow fever at that place. He has established strict quarantine regulations, and taken every proper precaution to protect the health of the officers and crews of the *New Hampshire* and *Pawnee*. There are no other public vessels in those waters.

COMMANDER ROBT. BOYD assumed command of the *Alert*, at Nagasaki, Aug. 7, relieving Lieut. Barber, who had been in temporary command. The general condition of the ship was reported good, and the crew exhibited a full knowledge of duties in all exercises, and appeared to have been well drilled, exercised and cared for.

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER DAVID C. WOODROW, and Assistant Paymaster T. D. Hoxsey, Jr., at

present on leave, have been authorized to delay returning to Port Royal, S. C., on account of the yellow fever being at that place, until notified by Commodore Hughes that their services are required.

SURGEON WILSON, of the United States Navy, was examined before three magistrates of Norfolk County, Va., Oct. 9, and acquitted of the charge of unlawfully shooting Mrs. Brown, a colored woman, on July 4. It will be remembered that the affair occurred on board a steam-boat, and that Dr. Wilson fired his pistol at a colored man with whom he had a difficulty, but the bullet hit Mrs. Brown, who was asleep at the time, in the face. The wound proved fatal.

The Department telegraph lines are now in full operation between the several Executive Departments and the Executive Mansion, the Congressional printing office and the Capitol. In addition, the Navy Department has an independent line to the Navy-yard, which is a great convenience for the prompt despatch of business. The necessity of this was made so apparent during the late strikes, the public lines having no wires to the yard or the Marine Corps, that it was decided to be without it no longer. The War Department has a line to the arsenal.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Norfolk *Landmark*, speaking of the arrival at Sandy Point, James River, of the monitor *Lehigh*, says: "The *Lehigh* and *Fortune* made a very pleasant trip to Sandy Point. She passed the swift gliding steamers *John Sylvester* and *Old Dominion* during the passage. She was loudly applauded from the latter, which was returned by three sharp blasts from the steam tender *Fortune*. Nothing of interest occurred during the passage. The *Lehigh* is the first of the monitors to go to the Sandy Point basin, as she is in fine condition and the cleanest monitor in the Navy. The *Lehigh*'s crew expect to own a farm here soon, if she is not ordered back to Norfolk this fall on account of election riots."

REV. J. C. FLETCHER writes as follows to the editor of the Indianapolis *Journal*: "When on a visit to Terre Haute a few days ago I ascertained a fact about our Secretary of the Navy which, though it greatly redounds to his credit, I have never seen noticed in print, and which, I have no doubt, so far as he is concerned, would remain forever unnoticed by the press. As I was on my way to church, in company with one of the oldest citizens of Terre Haute, I noticed a carriage driving in the direction of the country, and my companion remarked, 'That carriage contain Hon. Mr. Scott and wife.' Mr. Scott is the ex-member of Congress from this district. They are going to little country Methodist Church in the vicinity of Secretary Thompson's farm. It is there that Col. Thompson is in the habit, when at home, of each Sabbath expounding the Scriptures to his farmer neighbors. He is now spending his vacation with us, and every Sabbath he really preaches the Gospel. In this he is ably encouraged by his wife, who is one of the salt of the earth."

THE following is a list of the Cadet Midshipmen and Cadet Engineers admitted to the Naval Academy in September:

##### CADET MIDSHIPMEN.

Louis S. Bennett, 3d N. Jersey. Percy Kennett, Montana Ter. Everett N. Bell, 9th Tennessee. Spencer M. Kase, 17th Illinois. Robt. B. Blake, 8th N. Carolina. John A. Kimball, 7th Mass. Chas. H. Lauchheimer, 4th Md. James D. Creashead, 3d Texas. John J. Conway, 21st N. York. Abbot S. Cooke, 1st Illinois. Charles J. Dudley, 4th Georgia. Wm. B. Fletcher, 3d Vermont. William G. Ford, 1st Arkansas. Ruth Ford W. Forrest, 8th N. Y. Revere R. Gurlay, Dist. Col. William J. Grambs, 15th Penn. Felix H. Hunicke, 1st Missouri. Wm. P. Hoke, 5th Kentucky. Nath'l M. Hubbard, at Large. William L. Howard, 3d Conn. Thomas W. Hayden, 10th Mass. Malcolm Jackson, 5th Indiana. Alexander J. Jones, 12th Ill. Lincoln Karmany, 14th Penn.

##### CADET ENGINEERS.

Oliver B. Shallenberger, Penn. William H. Gartley, Penn. William B. Dav. Ohio. William B. Webster, N. York. Bias C. Sampson, Illinois. Albert M. New York. Isaac B. Parsons, Michigan. Gustavus K. Hamer, Indiana. Robert J. Beach, New York. Arthur R. Bush, Massachusetts. Lyman B. Perkins, Conn. Harry R. McCreary, Maryland. Lewellyn F. Whittle, Virginia. John T. Arnold, Wyoming Ter.

##### FRONTIERERS.

Martin A. Anderson, Wis. Frank B. Dowst, Mass. William W. White, Penn. Jay M. Whitham, Illinois. Daniel D. Gladstone, N. Jersey. William S. Smith, New York. DeWitt C. Redgrave, Maryland. Andrew McAllister, New York. Robert Stewart, Michigan. Kenneth McAlpine, Virginia. Lloyd Bankson, Pennsylvania. Herbert P. Prevar, Mass.

THE *Essex*, Commander W. S. Schley, arrived at Funchal, Madeira, Sept. 14, twenty-nine days from Hampton Roads. During the first week out she encountered a gale, commencing at east and veering by the southward to the northwest. While lying-to under snug sail a tremendous cross sea swept one of the quarter boats from the davits, smashing her and carrying her away. No other damage resulted, and the ship behaved beautifully. Commander Schley reports that he has been quite successful in running the experimental line of deep sea soundings off to about 1,900 fathoms. The experience gained in so doing will be of inestimable value in the main line to be run from the west coast of Africa to Rio de Janeiro. The *Essex* expected to remain at Funchal a week or ten days in order to allow officers and men a little recreation after their month's confinement at sea. Health of all on board excellent.

PASSED ASST. SURGEON JOHN F. BRANSFORD, of the Navy, who returned from Central America some weeks since, is now writing up his report. The last annual report of the Smithsonian Institution, recently published, says: "To Dr. J. F. Bransford, U. S. N., is due the most important acquisition ever made from Central America, in the form of a very large number of objects exhumed from Indian graves on the Island of Ometepec, in Lake Nicaragua. These were especially interesting as being found between successive sheets of volcanic eruptions, thus giving a comparative chronology to the objects." The collections here referred to were made on a previous visit of Dr. Bransford to Central America. Professor Baird also reports that Engineer William A. Mintzer, of the U. S. N., contributed to the institution a number of packages containing collections of natural history and ethnology from Arctic America, collected by him while engaged in mining isinglass on Admiralty Island, north of Hudson's Straits. The specimens of birds furnished by him from Greenland are noteworthy.

THE NAVY DEPARTMENT has received official despatches from Captain Wm. P. McCann, commanding the *Lackawanna*, dated at Port Townsend, W. T., Sept. 17. It will be recollect that the *Lackawanna* was sent to Neah Bay, Puget Sound, in view of reports of dissatisfaction of the Indians in that vicinity, and the fear that they might use violence against the residents. Captain McCann has had frequent interviews and consultations with the Indian agent, Mr. Huntington, and has been of very great service in strengthening him in the discharge of his trust. Captain McCann reports that there are about 850 Makawas or Cape Indians located at or near the harbor, and 250 Quenuits some 30 miles to the southward of the Cape—the latter recently placed under charge of the superintendent. These Indians are subordinate and peacefully disposed, and the few white families on the reserve are not apprehensive of acts of hostility. The Indians have become somewhat more independent in their bearing since the withdrawal of the troops, being under the impression that such withdrawal left the agent powerless to exercise his authority. One cause of complaint on the part of the Indians is, the compulsory attendance of their children at the schools established by the Government. A few days previous to the arrival of the *Lackawanna*, several hundred Claguots from Vancouver Island visited the harbor, and landed from 24 canoes 200 well-armed warriors, making a friendly visit. The following day the Indians appeared at the school, and declared their intention to remove their children, saying they did not wish them educated. The arrival of the *Lackawanna* the same day probably prevented difficulty, as the demand was not repeated, and the Vancouver Indians returned across the straits. Before leaving the harbor the *Lackawanna* had a boat exercise and target practice with great guns in front of the village. The arrival of the *Lackawanna* was considered by the agent as very opportune, and as having a salutary effect on the Indians of the agency. Port Townsend is the present address of the *Lackawanna*.

A TELEGRAPHIC despatch from San Francisco announces the flight of one W. R. Cooper, a speculator in stocks, after sundry heavy forgeries, and states that he is identified as the same person, formerly of the Navy, who forged signatures and obtained large sums from the Government.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, August 27, 1866.

General Order No. 80.

Wm. Ringgold Cooper, late an acting ensign in the Navy, having been convicted of defrauding the Government of large sums of money, by means of forged papers, will be considered as dishonorably discharged from the Service by his arrest for the said offence August 2, 1866.

GIDEON WELLES, Secretary of the Navy.

The above is the order dismissing Cooper from the Navy. He was at the time on special duty in the Navy Department, and thereby obtained access to requisitions made by paymasters for money. These he copied, varying the dates and amounts, and being an expert penman executed the signatures of the paymaster and other officers through whom the requisitions were forwarded, with great dexterity. His last exploit was for the sum of \$50,000 on a forged requisition of Paymaster R. W. Allen, the draft for which was sent to Baltimore, where he collected the money, and made purchases of bonds, etc. He then returned to Washington and was married to Miss Mothershead, a relative of John D. DeFreeze, and the wedding breakfast was conspicuous for its elegance. The same day he left for Philadelphia, and in the evening was arrested at the Continental and lodged in jail—was convicted and sent to Moyemensing for several years. It was given out, but not believed, that he died in prison. He has been recognized in California by one or more officers of the Navy, and with his new wife was living in fine style. His first wife obtained a divorce and was subsequently married to a very clever lawyer of Washington. It is said of him in the matter of the \$50,000 draft, that he borrowed a paymaster's uniform, and himself urged the draft through the Treasury Department. As it did not arrive in Baltimore as early as he expected, he telegraphed to have it hurried forward, as the money was greatly needed to pay off the vessel to which he was attached. He was a young man of pleasant and fascinating bearing, and collected around him many

admirers. The extravagant manner in which he lived brought suspicion on him, and he was thereafter shadowed and finally caught. He was a native of Delaware, and appointed in the Navy from Pennsylvania in November, 1864, and was at one time on the staff of Rear-Admiral S. P. Lee.

#### NAVY GAZETTE.

#### REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE

#### ORDERED.

OCTOBER 4.—Lieutenant Wm. P. Kendall, to the receiving ship Wabash at Boston. Lieutenant Henry W. Lyon, John P. Merrell and E. W. Verry, to West Point Foundry at Cold Spring, New York, to assist in proof of converted guns; also, to Saugerties, New York, to examine the process of manufacture of iron for tubes. On the completion of these duties they will return and resume their regular duties.

Master D. H. Mahan, to the training ship Minnesota at New York.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Thomas Owens, to take passage on the vessel the Tallapoosa for the purpose of testing the ventilator of his invention, and to return to Washington on board that vessel.

Passed Assistant Engineer W. A. Windsor, to duty on board the Ajax, and in charge of the machinery of the other iron-clad vessels at Norfolk on the 13th October.

Passed Assistant Engineer George M. Greene, to the Bureau of Steam Engineering.

OCTOBER 5.—Lieutenant Willie Swift has been ordered to Norfolk to join the Plymouth, as heretofore ordered, that vessel having left New York before he joined her.

OCTOBER 6.—Lieutenant-Commander James G. Green, to the Navy-yard, Norfolk.

Ensign William Winder, to the receiving ship Colorado at New York.

Assistant Engineer John A. Tobin, to examination preliminary to promotion.

OCTOBER 8.—Medical Inspector Thos. J. Turner, as a member of the Naval Medical Examining Board in addition to his present duties.

Assistant Surgeons J. H. Hall and Walter A. McClurg, to examination preliminary to promotion.

Passed Assistant Paymaster John MacMahon, to examination preliminary to promotion.

OCTOBER 9.—Chief Engineer Robert L. Harris, to duty in charge of engineer's stores at the Navy-yard, Washington, on the 22d October.

Asst. Engineer Wm. H. Nauman, to the receiving ship Colorado at New York.

OCTOBER 10.—Commodore Peirce Crosby, to command the Navy-yard, League Island, Pa., on the 1st November.

Captain Edward Simpson, as captain of the Navy-yard, New York, on the 31st October.

Captain William T. Truxtun, as captain of the Navy-yard, Norfolk, on the 1st November.

Lieutenant W. W. Mead, to the Hydrographic Office, Washington, D. C.

Passed Assistant Surgeon T. C. Heyl, to the Rio Bravo at Brownsville, Texas.

#### DETACHED.

OCTOBER 4.—Lieutenant-Commander Charles H. Davis, from the Naval Observatory on the 13th October, and ordered to the Guard.

Master Marcus D. Hyde, from the receiving ship Independence, and granted leave until the 25th November.

Passed Assistant Engineer Isaac R. McNary, from the Ajax, and from charge of the machinery of other iron-clad vessels at Norfolk, Va., and placed on waiting orders on the 13th October.

OCTOBER 5.—Master Hugo Osterhaus, from the Powhatan on the 15th October, and ordered to the Hydrographic Office, Washington, on the 15th November.

OCTOBER 6.—Master John E. Roller, from the receiving ship Colorado, and ordered to the Ossipee.

Ensign Howard S. Waring, from the Hartford, and placed on waiting orders.

OCTOBER 9.—Lieutenant D. W. Davis, from the receiving ship Wyoming, and ordered to the receiving ship Independence at the Navy-yard, Mare Island, Cal., on the 1st November.

Medical Inspector T. W. Leach, from duty as member of Naval Examining Board, and placed on waiting orders.

Chief Engineer James P. Sprague, from duty in charge of engineer's stores at the Navy-yard, Washington, on October 22, but to remain at the yard on experimental duty.

OCTOBER 10.—Captain C. H. Wells, from the command of the Navy-yard, League Island, Pa., on the 1st November, and placed on waiting orders.

Captain S. R. Franklin, from the Navy-yard, Norfolk, on the 31st October, and ordered to duty at the Hydrographic Office on the 1st November.

Captain Wm. G. Temple, from the Navy-yard, New York, on the 31st October, and placed on waiting orders.

Acting Assistant Surgeon I. C. Whitehead, from the Rio Bravo at Brownsville, Texas, and ordered to return home and wait orders.

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED.

To Medical Director Chas. Martin, attached to the Naval Hospital, Norfolk, Va., for one month from October 15.

To Lieutenant A. B. Speyers, for four months from October 4. To Lieutenant S. F. Clarkson, for three months, with authority to apply for an extension.

To Lieutenant D. G. McRitchie, for one month, to take effect on the arrival of the Tallapoosa at Portsmouth, N. H.

To Passed Assistant Surgeon J. M. Ambler, attached to the Naval Hospital, Norfolk, Va., for two weeks from October 8.

To Carpenter Josiah P. Carter, for thirty days from Oct. 16.

#### LEAVE EXTENDED.

The leave of Commander Fredk. R. Smith, now at Bangor, Maine, has been extended three months.

#### ORDERS REVOKED.

The orders of Midshipman T. G. Winch to the Portsmouth, and to continue on duty on board the Pensacola.

#### ORDERS SUSPENDED.

The orders detaching Paymaster Jared Linsly, Jr., from the Minnesota on the 15th October, for the present.

The orders of Paymaster A. J. Pritchard to the Minnesota on the 15th October, for the present.

#### WARRANTED.

William Redstone a salimaker in the Navy, from January 17, 1876.

#### APPOINTED.

Paymaster George A. Lyon has been appointed president and Paymasters George W. Beaman and Henry T. Skelding members of a board for the examination of Passed Assistant Paymaster John MacMahon preliminary to promotion. The board will convene at the Navy-yard, Washington, on the 18th October.

Chief Engineer Harman Newell has been appointed senior member and Chief Engineers Wm. J. Lamdin, A. J. Kiersted and W. W. Dungan, Passed Assistant Engineers G. W. Roche and R. D. Taylor, Assistant Engineers Wm. Rowbotham and A. B. Willits members of a board, to try the machinery of the U. S. steamer Quinnebaug at the Navy-yard, League Island, on the 13th October.

#### LIST OF DEATHS

In the Navy of the United States, which have been reported to the Surgeon-General, for the week ending October 10, 1877:

James Board, beneficiary, October 1, Naval Hospital, Philadelphia.

(From the Geographical Monthly Report No. 9. Justus Perthes, Gotha, September, 1877.)

#### AMERICA.

THE establishment of the telegraphic lines between North America, the West Indies and Panama suggested to Commodore R. H. Wyman, U. S. N., chief of the Hydrographic Office at Washington, the determination of the longitudes of points, which were in telegraphic connection with the observatories of North America; the telegraph, as is well known, offering the best means for exact comparisons of time. To Lieutenant Commander F. M. Green, U. S. N., was entrusted the carrying out of this work. Lieutenant Commander F. M. Green was ably assisted by Professor Miles Rock and by Messrs. Belden, Norris, Bartlett, and Wilson, officers of the U. S. N. The work was begun in December, 1874, and finished in June, 1876.

A complete report, with a description of the instruments and methods used, together with all the elements of observation, has recently been published by the U. S. Hydrographic Office, from which the following results are taken:

	N. Lat.	Long.	West of Greenwich in time, which in arc.
Havana, Morro Light-tower	23° 00' 00"	82° 29' 30"	82° 29' 30"
Santiago de Cuba, Blanca Bat'y	20° 00' 00"	65° 29' 00"	65° 29' 00"
Kingston, flagstaff, Port Royal	17° 55' 00"	75° 50' 00"	75° 50' 00"
Panama, southern tower of Cathedral	8° 57' 00"	79° 32' 12" 13.8	79° 32' 12" 13.8
San Juan de Puerto Rico, Morro Light-tower	18° 23' 00"	64° 29' 45" 66° 27' 15"	64° 29' 45" 66° 27' 15"
St. Thomas, Fort Christian	18° 20' 33.15"	64° 49' 50" 64° 55' 05.5"	64° 49' 50" 64° 55' 05.5"
St. Croix, Lang's Observatory	17° 44' 42.7"	64° 45' 17" 64° 41' 17.4"	64° 45' 17" 64° 41' 17.4"
St. John, Antigua, northern tower of Cathedral	17° 00' 00"	61° 50' 27.9"	61° 50' 27.9"
St. Pierre, Martinique, St. Marthe Battery	14° 45' 53.9"	61° 11' 11.7"	61° 11' 11.7"
Bridgetown, Barbadoes, Rickett's Battery	13° 54' 00"	58° 29' 23" 59° 37' 18.45"	58° 29' 23" 59° 37' 18.45"
Port Spain, Trinidad, water battery	10° 38' 39.21"	61° 2.56" 61° 30' 38.4"	61° 2.56" 61° 30' 38.4"
Aspinwall Light-tower	9° 35' 00"	59° 34.98" 79° 54' 44.7"	59° 34.98" 79° 54' 44.7"

THE Watertown (N. Y.) *Daily Times* gives a sketch of the life and services of P. A. Engineer Anthony Ten Eyck Mullin, U. S. N., who died suddenly on the evening of Sept. 20th, at the residence of his father, Judge Mullin, in Watertown. Mr. Mullin was born in that town, Jan. 24th, 1841, was graduated at the Polytechnic Institute, Troy, Jan. 1861, and entered the Navy in August following as 3d Asst. Engineer. Was taken prisoner on the capture of the *Harriet Lane*, the first vessel to which he was ordered. With several other naval officers he was finally paroled and they walked, or rode on horseback, across the country from Houston to New Orleans. Mr. Mullin then visited his home, and after spending a few weeks here was ordered to the *Agawam*, which was stationed on the James River and the Atlantic coast. At the time of General Butler's attack on Fort Fisher, he and Lieut. Porter were the officers selected by Commodore Rhind, for the powder boat expedition, which he commanded. In a letter written shortly after, Jan. 23, 1865, to Secretary Welles, Commodore (then Commander) Rhind, said: "Sir: Second Asst. Engineer A. T. E. Mullin, recently ordered to examination at Philadelphia 'in recognition of his gallant services while attached to the *Louisiana*, has served with me in this vessel for about a year. I desire to express to the Department my appreciation of the services and qualifications of this officer. His attention to duty, zeal and capacity, are of the highest order. He has been always ready to volunteer on any service however hazardous, and on the occasion of selecting the officers to accompany me in the *Louisiana*, Mr. Mullin immediately assented when I proposed to him that duty. As his length of service would entitle him in a very brief period to an examination as First Assistant Engineer, I trust the Department will see fit to advance him to still higher grade 'in recognition of his gallant services while attached to the *Louisiana*.' From the *Agawam* Mr. Mullin went at the close of the war on a three years' cruise, in the *Hartford*, to China and Japan, following with a similar cruise in the *Plymouth* on the European station. Upon his return he was stationed at New Orleans on special duty, and was then ordered to join the *Richmond*, his last ship, on a cruise to the South Pacific. About two years were spent by the *Richmond* in cruising on the western and eastern coasts of South America. Mr. Mullin came home with his ship, and reached Boston about two weeks ago. He was left in charge of his department for a few days after reaching port, only reaching home on the morning train, on Thursday, Sept. 20. He was apparently in his usual health, nor had the family any knowledge that he was not. He had made no complaint, and spent the day in calling upon friends about the city. After tea, while seated with the family in the sitting room of his father's residence, and relating incidents of his last cruise, about 8 o'clock, suddenly and without a sign of any apparent pain or suffering, he fell back in his chair and ceased to breathe.

ONE particularly bashful midshipman from the *Constellation*, on being introduced to one of the belles of the day, modestly stammered: "I beg your pardon, Miss, it is not my fault; but, ah! the captain ordered me to ask you to dance."

SECRETARY THOMPSON, in speaking of the numerous jokes at his expense, said: "That of the hatchway was the best." Some one present had not heard it, and he repeated: "In one of my visits of inspection it was said that I was asked to define the proper dimensions of a hatchway, and that I replied, that depends upon the size of the hen and the number of eggs she is to set on."

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Omaha, Neb.; Brigadier-General L. F. Graham, U. S. Army;  
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The Court of Inquiry ordered to investigate the case of Lieut.-Col. C. E. Blunt, Corps of Engineers, is sitting at the Army Building, cor. Houston and Greene St., N. Y. City. Capt. and Brev't Lieut.-Colonel Jacob F. Kent, 3d Infantry, is recorder of the court.

We learn that the U. S. Cartridge Company works are running night and day on U. S. Army and foreign orders. The manufacturing capacity is 300,000 cartridges per day.

GENERAL SHERMAN, with the members of his staff accompanying him, arrived at San Francisco from Portland, Oregon, Oct. 7.

**U. S. ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.**

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**THE PAY OF THE ARMY.**

**B**EFORE the present issue of the JOURNAL reaches many readers at their distant stations, the Forty-fifth Congress of the United States will have convened in extra session to consider the question of its rights and duties in dealing with the Army and Navy of the Union. The importance of the subject is evinced by the fact that the President has deemed it necessary to call this extra session of the two Houses to meet the emergency. The Forty-fourth Congress adjourned last March in the midst of an irreconcilable conflict between two co-ordinate branches of the Government as to the powers and duties of the Executive in connection with the Army and Navy under his orders.

The result of this contest, as our readers know only too well, was the denial of just dues to the members of both Services. The wrong then done was patent and notorious, and it lies with the Forty-fifth Congress to redress that wrong in the spirit of patriotism and statesmanship. We are not of the number of those who believe in berating the action of Congress, with or without reason, if it happens to differ from our own views of justice and expediency, for we hold that on most occasions there is wisdom in the number of counsellors. On the other hand, it is equally true, that where party interests are at stake, the restraining effects of this wisdom are too often lost in the clamor of faction, and such was manifestly the case in the last Congress, where all issues other than political were steadily ignored for the greater part of the session. The Forty-fifth Congress will have a great advantage over its predecessor. The second session of the Forty-fourth Congress closed upon a country shaken to its centre by the throes of contending factions, with commerce paralyzed, capital timid, and prospects for the future decidedly discouraging; the first session of the Forty-fifth finds the country at peace, commerce reviving, and prospects for the future as bright as they were gloomy before. The power to solidify or destroy this prosperity lies with the Forty-fifth Congress, and on its shoulders rests a grave responsibility, especially with reference to legislation concerning the disposition for the future of the Army and Navy of the United States. Within the past twelve months the handful of men that compose the Regular forces of the United States, besides performing its regular routine of duty, has saved the country from imminent peril. In the heats of last July, an industrial rebellion of the gravest character was completely suppressed, without the loss of a single life, by the presence of the Regular forces of the United States, after it had defied the forces of three States in the Union, and when one of the first manufacturing cities of the country had been laid in ashes by the rebels. It stands recorded as an indisputable fact, that less than three thousand men of the Regular forces of

the United States quelled, without the loss of a single life, an outbreak which the State authorities, after much bloodshed and incendiary, could not control with a militia force of nearly 30,000 men all told, till the Regulars had taken the brunt of the difficulty on their own shoulders, and overawed the mob by the moral influence of discipline.

During all this time, these men, patient and uncomplaining, have performed their duty with the fact staring them in the face that the Government had repudiated its obligations to them, and that they might never receive their just dues. They stand to day in the same position. Out on the western plains, in hunger and thirst, heat and cold, death meeting them in a hundred different forms, too often accompanied by all the tortures that savage ingenuity can inflict, officers and men alike have been compelled to toil on, with the prospect before them, if the next Congress follows the last, of being turned adrift, whole or crippled as the case may be, without a penny of money with which to begin the world again.

The case of the officers of the Navy is still more cruel. Army officers, owing to the public spirit and prompt action of some of our prominent bankers, have been able to procure money on their pay accounts at a small rate of interest, but even this resource has been denied to our Navy officers, at home and abroad, compelling them to keep up the appearance of officers and gentlemen on the insufficient savings of past pay or to suffer privations the more keen because there has been no good reason why they should be asked to endure them.

The first and plainest duty that lies before the Forty-fifth Congress, is to repair the injustice committed by the Forty-fourth, and to vote at once, by Joint Resolution or otherwise, as may be most speedy, for the immediate payment by the country of its debt to the Army and Navy under the laws of the land. Everything else can be altered, but nothing, not even the unanimous vote of every branch of the Government, can sanction the continuance of the injustice under which the Army and Navy now suffer. Questions of reformation and reorganization can be discussed at leisure, but a sacred debt of honor like this cannot be postponed. The Forty-fifth Congress has before it the choice between patriotism and faction, the prosperity or the ruin of the country. It enters the course untrammelled. Which road will it take?

**THE MEXICAN DIFFICULTY.**

The despatches from Texas which we print this week show that the state of chronic irritation on the Mexican border which we have recorded during the past summer, has reached a crisis. The sudden subversion of the government of a town on American soil and the forcible seizure of its magistrates are strange things to read of. In Mexico perfectly natural; in the United States they are as yet almost unprecedented. How long it will be before the example of the mongrel inhabitants of El Paso County is followed by other towns of Texas where the Mexican blood predominates is hard to say, but it is probable that if a check be not soon put to this lawlessness it will spread very rapidly. The state of feeling which engenders these and like outrages is one of long standing, and they must and will continue till forcibly repressed.

It has been the misfortune of the United States in all its wars of late years, generally to enter into a struggle on a wrong basis. This peculiarity was marked in the first Mexican war, and seems very likely to be repeated in the second. Instead of a prompt, decided and vigorous policy, such as that pursued by England in like cases, supported by the whole power of the nation, the United States has generally pursued a halting, hesitating and dilatory career, which has too often left it open to the charge of bad faith in international matters. From inability to control the actions of private citizens or the forces of individual States, filibustering has been permitted in too many cases. Nothing but the weakness of Spain and the Central American republics has saved us in times past from wars with those countries, and the first Mexican war was the undoubted offspring of the lawless aggressions of early Texan desperadoes, who sheltered themselves under the American flag and provoked hostilities with the Mexican government.

In the present difficulties, it is hard to find dignity or decorum in the conduct of the American Government. After making all allowances for the position of the present President and his cabinet, it remains plain that they have not dealt with the Mexican difficulties in a manner becoming a strong nation. Too little has been done for justification of our cause, too much to bear the test of international comity. When the President first issued his order to General ORD to follow robbers over the Rio Grande and put down brigandage on the Mexican border, the general sense of the country was with him, and a return to the vigorous policy of JACKSON was anticipated. All the hopes excited by this order have been since dashed by the irresolution of the subsequent course of the Government. The result has been that our own forces have been lured across the border, as happened last week, on false reports of Mexican spies, and put into the position of violating Mexican territory without just or sufficient cause, so as to offset any demands we may have against the Mexican government for previous raids.

In fact, General ORD and the officers of his command have been given under this order a sort of *carte blanche* to make war when and where they please, on the same footing as the Mexicans, and the contest between the two sides has become one of subtlety and finesse, in which the Anglo Saxon is no match for the Mexican. It is time that these lawless reprisals and forays, destitute of any serious result, this guerilla warfare unworthy of a great nation, should be stopped, and a firm, consistent and decided course taken by the United States. There is no doubt that we have suffered and are suffering gross indignities and outrages from the border Mexicans, and that the central government of Mexico is either unable or unwilling to do us justice. It is time therefore to offer the Mexican nation distinctly the alternative of peace or war, and to compel, by legitimate warfare, conducted as becomes a great nation, the rectification of past wrongs and absolute security against new outrages.

We earnestly hope and expect that the message of the President will bring this question fully before the houses of Congress. No nation so much as our own has an interest in the establishment of a safe, stable and permanent government in Mexico. She is our only disagreeable neighbor. We get along with Canada without a particle of trouble, because Canada has a strong government. We have helped Mexico to get rid of a foreign ruler who maintained peace within her borders, because he was not the choice of her people. By steady persistence we induced the French to leave Mexico and restored that country to self government, and our reward ever since has been the robbery and murder of our citizens by Mexicans. It is time this state of things were ended, but it cannot be ended by guerilla warfare. In only one way can we secure permanent peace and security for our southern borders, and that way is to give Mexico the alternative of maintaining peace upon her border, or witnessing once more the spectacle of an American Army dictating terms of peace in her capital. If the shifting boundary of the Rio Grande is not susceptible of defence against predatory incursions, let us insist upon a boundary that can be defended, but let us do this in a manner worthy the dignity of a great nation, and not reduce ourselves to the level of a band of guerillas.

#### REORGANIZATION VS. DISORGANIZATION.

We published in the JOURNAL of 29th September, a letter signed "D," headed "How to Reorganize the Army." "How to Disorganize the Army," might have been a mere appropriate title. While coinciding with Gen. SHERMAN's views as to the necessity of three battalions for our infantry regiments, adding for that purpose two companies to each regiment, we cannot regard the promotions consequent thereon, as "original vacancies." Nor do we understand that Gen. SHERMAN so regards them. We are forced to look on them as commissions in regiments already formed, to be filled by regular promotion—a procedure demanded alike by justice, by expediency, and by discipline. It is demanded, first in justice to a body of suffering and faithful officers, who have devoted the best years of their lives to hard service, to exile in the Indian country; whose just promotion has been retarded for years, not for any fault of theirs, but simply, because of wholesale legislation,

first reducing the number of majors allowed to our infantry regiments, and then reducing the number of infantry regiments themselves, from 45 to 25, nearly one-half. It is demanded by expediency, because our Army, of necessity small, ought to be on the most efficient footing possible. Our officers are fast becoming disproportionately old, in years and in length of service, for the grades they occupy; it is inexpedient to continue this disproportion by retarding their well-earned promotion.

Discipline demands it—for discipline must suffer at the hands of injustice. We cannot afford to forget those men grown gray on the frontier; who have unmurmuringly braved storm and sun, thirst and starvation; who have hungered until glad to eat the starved horse or mule which fell exhausted on the trail, dying only to afford a much-needed meal of skin and tendon and bone to his scarcely less famished rider (see the accounts of the recent Sioux campaign). We say nothing of Indian bullets—they are the heritage of the soldier.

Nor can we afford to forget the encouragement due to the young soldier joining service. We must let him see that promotion should be earned by self-sacrifice, by devotion to duty, rather than by wire-pulling at Washington. As for bringing civilians into the Army over the heads of old officers—the proposition speaks for itself. Could the bitterest enemy of the country and of its Army, devise a more deadly blow at discipline and *esprit de corps*? What was it that enabled our handful of Regular troops to restore peace and security from Baltimore to Pittsburgh, west to the Missouri River, during the recent riots—peace and security gained without a blow, almost without an angry word spoken—gained by a handful, where the unskilled force of thousands shed blood in vain? Was it not the *prestige*, the well-marked *ensemble* of Regular troops, shoulder to shoulder? If you wish to destroy this *ensemble*; if you want to make an army descend towards the level of an armed mob; if you desire to take from it the power to guarantee security to your property, to your home, degrade the men, degrade the officers who have given their best years to their country, and send brand new civilians with brand new commissions, to command them.

#### THE CUSTER FUNERAL.

The last scene of the stormy career of Gen. CUSTER closed in peace and rest on Wednesday last, in the quiet green cemetery of the National Military Academy at West Point. As announced in the JOURNAL, the funeral escort consisted of the Post Detachment of Cavalry, the Cadet Light Battery of Artillery, and the Cadet Battalion of Infantry. All the arrangements were made by Gen. SCHOFIELD, who displayed great kindness and consideration for the feelings of the family of the deceased officer, and nothing occurred to mar the solemnity of the last honors rendered by the Army of the nation to the remains of its dead.

From an early hour West Point was crowded with visitors from the country round. The body of Gen. CUSTER was then in the Poughkeepsie receiving vault, from whence it was escorted to the boat by the 21st New York regiment and the 5th New York Division Battery. Gen. PARKER, of the New York National Guard, with his staff, accompanied the remains to West Point, where they were received by the cavalry detachment and taken to the chapel. They were then placed under guard of Company E, Engineer Battalion, till the escort was formed. The doors of the chapel were not opened till nearly three o'clock, by which time a great crowd of spectators was present, and kept back with some difficulty by a line of soldiers. Gen. SCHOFIELD then entered the chapel escorting Mrs. CUSTER, and followed by Mr. EMMANUEL H. CUSTER, the father of the dead general, together with the immediate friends of the family and of the regiment. Mrs. ALGERNON E. SMITH and Mrs. HARRINGTON, widows of two of the young officers killed with Gen. CUSTER, together with Lieut. BRADEN, of the 7th Cavalry, were the only remnants of the once happy family of officers and ladies that made the regiment so conspicuous in the service. The pall-bearers were Gens. MARCY, KIDDOW, DEVIN, FAY and FORSYTHE, and Cols. LYFORD, LUDLOW and MITCHELL. The service of the Episcopal Church was read by Rev. Dr. FORSYTHE, Post Chaplain. The whole of the military part of

the ceremony was faultlessly executed, and the final volleys of the cadet battalion, as they echoed up the winding river, announced that hereafter the bones of a gallant soldier would be left in peace under the shadow of old Cronest. He fought well and died nobly. May his rest be as quiet as his life was eventful.

The intelligence which has arrived during the present week of the closing of the Nez Percé war, by the surrender of Chief JOSEPH with the remnant of his band, to the United States forces under General MILES, will bring a thrill of satisfaction to the hearts of all friends of the Army. The extraordinary courage and magnanimity exhibited in the closing battle, by Indians and whites alike, give to the whole story a dignity and power very rare in the accounts of Indian wars, and render us doubly thankful that this painful task is over. From their first rising the Nez Percés have excited a great deal of public sympathy, on account of the undoubtedly wrong done them by the U. S. Government, and especially because, as a rule, they are guiltless of the disgusting barbarities practiced by Indians on wounded prisoners. This trait they owe not to their Indian natures, but to the fact that they have become more civilized than any other tribe in their vicinity, having been in many cases educated in schools conducted by whites, the English language being commonly understood among them. That the softening influence of civilization has not impaired their fighting qualities is evinced by the desperate valor of their defence against great odds, and the wonderful character of Chief JOSEPH's march from Oregon to Montana.

The final success of General MILES has been dearly purchased by the death of two more officers of the already sorely stricken 7th Cavalry, in the persons of Captain OWEN HALE and 2d Lieutenant J. WILLIAMS BIDDLE, in one company, the wounding of the captains of both the other companies of that regiment engaged, MOYLAN and GODFREY, while Lieutenants ROMEYK and BAIRD, of the 5th Infantry, with an unusually heavy proportion of the attacking force are more or less severely wounded. The casualties, as far as ascertained at present, are sixty-seven, twenty-three killed and forty-four wounded, in a battle of not more than twenty minutes' duration, to judge from the accounts. Captain OWEN HALE, of the 7th Cavalry, killed in the first charge, was appointed to the regiment on its first organization, July 28, 1866, as a 1st lieutenant, and has remained with the 7th ever since, being promoted to a captaincy, March 1, 1869. His previous service in the volunteers was in the 7th New York Cavalry, in which he rose from the ranks to be 1st lieutenant, being transferred to the 4th New York Provisional Cavalry, and made brevet captain of volunteers at the close of the war. Lieutenant BIDDLE was a recent appointment from the State of Pennsylvania, from whence he was assigned to the 7th Cavalry, Aug. 31, 1876. In the absence of any extended records of either of these officers, we shall be indebted to such of their friends as furnish us particulars for a fuller notice of their deaths.

Co. A of the 7th Cavalry is left by this battle without a single officer present, Lieutenant BRADEN, the only other officer alive, having been wounded so severely on Custer's Yellowstone expedition in 1873, that it is very doubtful if he can ever sit a horse again. The same company loses 15 enlisted men killed and wounded.

A very interesting series of heliotypes illustrating the contents of the United States Government Building at the Philadelphia Exposition of 1876 has been prepared by Brevet Lieut.-Col. LYFORD, Ordnance Department U. S. Army, and now lies before us. We have seldom seen a more thoroughly satisfactory and artistic work. To those who, during the summer of last year, admired the splendid exhibits shown by the Government, this volume will be a very welcome memento. It contains thirty-two plates 18 by 12 inches, comprising full views of the exterior and interior of the whole Government building, and giving in detail the most characteristic features of the exhibits of the War, Navy, Post Office and Interior Departments. The Smithsonian Institute, with its natural history, is represented by several plates, but the War Department, with its various sections, occupies more than half of the book, and the plates are both interesting and picturesque. The work is published by JAMES R. OSGOOD and Co., Boston, Mass., and is a credit to author and publishers.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor of the *ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL* does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications published under this head. His purpose is to allow the largest freedom of discussion consistent with propriety and good feeling.

## OFFICERS' PAY.

To the Editor of the *Army and Navy Journal*:

SIR: Now that Congress is about to meet, I wish to make a suggestion. The law provides that the pay of officers shall be a certain specified sum. Through no fault of our own, the greater part of us have been obliged to sacrifice a portion of that pay. A few, perhaps, who were better off financially than the remainder have been enabled to tide over the time, and thus draw their full pay. If the Government withholds from us that which is our due, it ought at least to return to us that which we have been forced to pay as interest. The case is far different from that which sometimes arises, when troops are so situated in the field that they cannot be paid. As it now stands it is a tax on the Army for the faithful performance of very distasteful duties. "JUSTICE."

## THE YELLOWSTONE COUNTRY.

The following is the text of Gen. Sheridan's report to the Adjutant-General on his visit to the Big Horn and Yellowstone Rivers during the past summer:

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE  
MISSOURI, CHICAGO, Sept. 28, 1877.

Brigadier-General E. D. Townsend, Adjutant-General of the Army, Washington, D. C.:

SIR: The necessity which caused the establishment of the two new military posts in the Yellowstone and Big Horn valleys, in the heart of the hostile Sioux country, made it incumbent on me to collect such knowledge of that section as would enable me to determine to some extent its character, the bearing of the posts upon it, and size of the garrisons. This information could best be obtained by a personal visit to the posts and a reconnaissance, embracing as large a scope of the country referred to as was practicable. I therefore made up my mind to go from Chicago by rail to Green River station, on the Union Pacific Road; thence by stage, via Camp Stambaugh, Wyoming, across the Wind River Mountains to Camp Brown, on Little Wind River, near the agency of the Shoshones; from Camp Brown, with a proper escort, to travel down the Little Wind River to its junction with the main Wind River; thence down the Big Horn formed by their junction to the western base of the Owl Creek mountains; then turning east by Bridger and Sioux Pass made my way to Painted Rock River, which skirts the western base of the Big Horn mountains, and is erroneously put down on the maps as Norwood Creek, thence down this river until I reached a point which would enable me to cross the Big Horn mountains on the Tongue River trail, and after reaching the eastern base of the mountains to proceed down the Little Horn River to Post No. 2, located at its mouth; from thence by steamer to Post No. 1, at the mouth of Tongue River, and then by steamer to Bismarck, and by the Northern Pacific Railroad back via St. Paul to Chicago. The country embraced in this circuit covered nearly the whole of the great Big Horn and Yellowstone valleys, and is the country that was occupied by the hostile Indians during the previous summer.

The necessary escort having been ordered at Camp Brown, Wyo. T., I left Chicago June 25, 1877, accompanied by Colonel D. B. Sacket, Inspector General; Lieutenant-Colonel James W. Forsyth, Military Secretary, and Major George A. Forsyth, Acting Aide-de-Camp, of my staff; Lieutenant W. L. Carpenter, 9th Infantry, and two citizen friends; Colonel D. W. Welch and Colonel H. W. Farrar. At Omaha I was joined by General Crook, commanding the Department of the Platte, and on arrival at Camp Brown, June 30, by Lieutenant Schuyler and Bourke, General Crook's aides-de-camp.

Everything being in readiness at Camp Brown we started early on the morning of July 1 and on July 4 reached the western base of the Owl Creek Mountains. The country between Little Wind River and the valleys of the Little and Big Po Po, Agie and Beaver Creek were found to have good soil fit for the cultivation of grass in large amount, of great variety and not confined to the valleys of the streams named, but extending over the broken country as far east as the Rattlesnake Hills. The country from the junction of the Wind rivers to the base of the Owl Creek range was found to be a broken sage brush, bad land section unfit for cultivation, and without grass sufficient in quantity for grazing purposes.

On July 5 we continued our march, passing the Owl Creek range of mountains near the Bridger and Sioux pass, reaching the headquarters of Painted Rock River, and on July 13 arrived at the base of the Big Horn Mountains, on the Tongue River trail.

After leaving our camp on the evening of July 5 the country passed over changed from sage brush and ashy soil to one carpeted with grass and flowers, and as we made our way through the passes the grass increased in luxuriance and in area sufficient for thousands of cattle to feed on. Painted Rock River runs in its general direction nearly with and along the base of the Big Horn Mountains, where for 100 miles down it and on the east side is the Big Horn range of mountains, covered with bunch, gama and other nutritious grasses and wild flowers. The valley of Painted Rock River is susceptible of cultivation throughout nearly its whole length. The snow peaks of the Big Horn range are visible from the Sioux Pass all the way down the valley, and elk, antelope, deer, mountain sheep, buffalo and trout are abundant.

On July 14 we commenced the ascent of the Big Horn range, passing by several trout lakes and over Shell Creek, reaching the eastern base of the mountains on July 17, near the canyon of Tongue River. The ascent was not difficult, as the summit of the gen-

eral range is, say of 12,000 feet elevation, and from that down to about 5,000 feet is a succession of beautiful parks of grass surrounded by pine timber and dotted with lakes. One park on the summit, through which we passed in crossing, was about twenty miles long, opening out to three or four miles in width at places. The views from these mountains are exceedingly grand, one especially, from near Castle Coalbaugh, looking down the canyon of Shell Creek to the canyon of the Big Horn and then across the Big Horn Valley to the fine mountain ranges around the National Park to the north, and the Wind River ranges, on the west and southwest, cannot probably be exceeded on the globe. The bunch, gama and other nutritious grasses, supplemented by numerous wild flowers, added much to the wonderful beauty of this region. On July 19 we crossed from Tongue River to the Little Horn, and down the valley of that river to Post No. 2, at its mouth, arriving there July 22. The country along east of the Big Horn range from the heights near the canyon of Tongue River is very fine. Looking to the south along the base of the mountains as far as the old post of Fort Phil Kearney, then east across to the Wolf or Rosebud Mountains, then north to the Big Horn Valley, gives a scenery of undulating valleys, watered by mountain spring streams, fringed with timber, the soil being excellent and hillsides and valleys covered with bunch, bufflo, gama, blue and other grasses, intermixed with wild flowers. The valley of the Little Horn at this season was almost a continuous meadow with grass almost high enough to tie the tops from each side across a horse's back.

This was the country of the buffalo and hostile Sioux only last year. There are no signs of either now, but in their places we found prospectors, emigrants and tramps. The country east of the Big Horn range is much better and less broken than that on the west side. The cattle range here for hundreds of miles is superb. The grass is much better than in Colorado, Kansas or Texas in the latter part of summer, and in the fall the climate is so dry that the grass makes good hay without being cut, while in the southern latitudes alternate thawing and freezing is injurious to the cattle, and the rain rots the grass. We found post No. 2, delightfully located by Lieut.-Col. Buell, who was working as busy as a beaver in its erection. Five steamers coming up the Big Horn were in sight and were soon at the landing.

After one day's rest at the post we embarked on one of the steamers and proceeded down the Big Horn and Yellowstone to post No. 1, at the mouth of Tongue River, arriving the next day. The Big Horn River is a large, swift stream and very crooked. The distance of the post from its mouth is forty-five miles by water and thirty by land. The Big Horn Valley is very large and fertile, and about one hundred and fifty miles long. The Yellowstone, from the mouth of the Big Horn, is a fine, broad river, dotted with beautiful islands, while its valley is a broad expanse of cultivable land. Some of these open expanses were twenty miles in length by ten in width. Post No. 1 is on an open prairie near the mouth of Tongue River, a fine location, well selected. This post is being built under the direction of Colonel N. A. Miles, of the 8th Infantry, commanding the district, which embraces both posts, with headquarters at Tongue River.

On July 24 we continued our journey down the Yellowstone and Missouri to Bismarck, arriving there July 27, and at Chicago by rail July 29.

The report is limited and chiefly for the purpose of submitting to the General of the Army the very excellent itinerary and topographical sketch of the trail and country adjacent to it made by Colonel D. B. Sacket, the Inspector General of the division. Most of the higher peaks of the Big Horn Mountains were accurately located by Lieutenants Carpenter and Schuyler and named by Colonel Sacket, and profile sketches of them were made by Colonel Sacket and Lieutenant Schuyler. I also inclose and highly commend the report of Lieutenant W. L. Carpenter, 9th Infantry, on the geological and natural history of the section passed over, as well as the botanical reports of Dr. Julius H. Patzki, United States Army.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your ob't servant,  
P. H. SHERIDAN, Lieut.-Gen. U. S. A.

(From the *New York Sun*, Oct. 7.)

## LADIES ON BOARD A MAN-OF-WAR.

A FEW days before the United States steamship *Plymouth* was ordered from New York harbor to Hampton Roads I was invited by her captain, through a mutual friend, to visit her.

"She is a beautiful vessel," said he, "the crack ship of the Navy, more admired by foreign sea captains than any other vessel ever in New York harbor; the largest ship of the three men-of-war now in the harbor, and her commander is Capt. Edward Barrett, a Southerner, a Louisiana man; one of the few naval officers of Southern birth who remained in the Navy when the war broke out; the man who was selected to make that cruise up the Mississippi to Vicksburg which brought the *Sun* down upon the Government for throwing away public money in yachting up and down our rivers. You must say yes; Capt. Barrett expects you, and you ought not to miss the opportunity of seeing the ship and the man."

"Why the man?"

"You want a hero, a very common want."

"Is he a hero?"

"Is it possible you don't know who Capt. Barrett is?"

No, I did not; and so, Harry Wiggins, our mutual friend, gave me a long story of the gallant Captain's youthful exploits in the Mexican war, and, later in the war between the States, his cruises all over the world, and his valuable services since the war in the reorganization of the Ordnance Department of the Norfolk Navy yard, and as Instructor of Gunnery in organizing the schoolship *Savannah*, and lastly of that "yachting"

cruise up the Mississippi—and there I stopped him short, and made him stare by asking if the Captain was a handsome man.

"Ladies don't see with the same eyes that gentlemen do. You must decide that for yourself."

So, next morning, it was Sunday, and inspection and drill day on board the *Plymouth*, I went with Harry Wiggins and Miss Nellie Flitewood to see the crack ship and her captain. He sent his steam cutter for us and Lieut. Judd to escort us aboard.

I don't know much about nautical matters; but, as we stood on the boat landing at the Battery, looking over the sunny water at the three great black vessels with port holes and gaping guns that lay out in the harbor a few hundred yards off, it was evident that the *Plymouth* was the handsomest as well as the largest. Both the *Ossipee* and the *Minnesota*, her companions, stood higher out of the water and were not so trim. The *Ossipee*, in fact, has a very ugly stern. Harry Wiggins said she looked as if she had been built by the mile and cut off.

It did not take many minutes for the little steam cutter to reach the side of the huge black hull of the *Plymouth*. We steamed up under the black open mouths of the guns, went up the little gangway, the gentlemen handed us over the side of the ship, and there stood the Captain and his officers all glittering in gold lace, buttons, and epaulettes, with bared heads, waiting, caps in hand, to receive us. The Captain looked excessively grave, stern, and soldierly. He has side whiskers and a moustache, and blue-gray eyes and a Roman nose, and he is not tall; but when Nellie Flitewood was presented to him (she is very pretty), he smiled just a little, and smiling made him look handsome.

Then we went into the Captain's cabin and sat a few minutes, and then there was a whistle, followed by a fire and drum roll, and, grave as a judge, the Captain gave me his arm, and said:

"Madam, may I have the honor of showing you how we keep house on board a man-of-war?"

Lieut.-Commander Cook gave Miss Nellie his arm, and we walked out and down the long line of seamen, with their glittering drawn cutlasses, on one side of the spar deck, and the midshipmen and marines on the other. They stood like statues. I saw two men wink their eyes. They say the Captain is a splendid disciplinarian. I am sure he is. We stopped a few seconds to admire a long sixty-pounder Parrott rifle that is mounted lengthwise the boat, and polished until you can almost see your face in its curious mottled, chiseled surface, that peculiar color made by a polish of lampblack, beeswax, and vermillion—so we were told; went down to the mess deck, and visited the officers' mess and the men's messes; saw the kitchens and the infirmary; admired the brightness and cleanliness of all things; wondered at the order and neatness of men's housekeeping—not a woman to do anything

"Who make the beds and sweep and dust and mend the clothes, and cook and wash and iron?" I asked.

"The men. They not only sew, but they embroider beautifully, and carve tortoise shell into combs and ornaments," replied Captain Barrett, and he showed us beautiful specimens of their work afterwards in the cabin.

After we had been all over the ship and admired all things so much as to make the stern Captain smile several times, we went on the quarter-deck, but not on the forecastle. "No woman is permitted there," we were told; but from the quarter-deck we saw the drill.

When we descended to the Captain's cabin, he looked me square in the eye, and said:

"Does this look like a pleasure yacht, madam?"

"Not at all, Captain Barrett," and I looked him full in the face, and we both smiled.

Then we had breakfast, and the Captain was very polite and genial, and he told us that the *Plymouth* cruise up the Mississippi and other rivers had not cost the United States one cent for the entertainment of the thousands of ladies who had visited the ship.

"All the hospitalities on board a man-of-war in the United States Navy are expected to be and are at the expense of the Captain and his officers," said our host. "We entertain our friends at our own expense, and not at that of the Government."

After breakfast we went again on the quarter deck and saw the Gatling gun, and the Captain explained to us the difference between a monitor and a man-of-war, and the necessity for both kinds of ships in the Navy. And then Miss Nellie went down with Lieut. Judd to the spar deck, where all the shining black guns are, and Midshipman Dheil put a priming on one of the guns for her to explode, which she did, and the gun was named Nellie Flitewood in compliment to her. Then we came ashore in the Captain's gig, escorted by the Captain and several officers in their uniforms.

I had seen the man-of-war *Plymouth* and her crew of 225 men and officers, as they appeared in the eyes of those "thousands of Southern ladies who visited her on her cruise up the Mississippi to Vicksburg." I began to understand, imperfectly, perhaps, how that cruise probably "revived patriotism," and did the work of "cementing the cracks made by the civil war in the Union of the States."

GENERAL McCLELLAN.—The Boston *Zion's Herald* says: Gen. McClellan was taken, as the guest of the city, to the public institutions on Deer Island, and was called upon to execute the very difficult and delicate task of speaking to the children of the reform school. To his special credit be it said, he did not tell them that they had been abandoned by society, and now they were all to be taken good care of during the remainder of their natural lives, and might all be presidents or major-generals; but he did speak to them in a kindly and eminently wise manner, and sought to inspire them with an honest ambition to put forth all their efforts, resist every temptation, and to seek to be good men and useful in society.

(From Broad Arrow, Sept. 15.)

## THE UNITED STATES NAVY.

ARMIES and navies have each their fluctuations, and those of the latter are as real as those of the former. Soldiers become old and incapable, but we wisely pass them into reserves and call upon younger men for active service. In this way we retain an Army in an effective condition, by a simple, almost self-acting process. It is not so in the Navy. It is more difficult to fix its normal strength, to begin with. We are not aware that any one of the maritime Powers has even attempted this part of the problem. They fix the peace and war strength of the Army, but they leave the Navy to chance. If no one Power is active, the rest dream on at peace. But if there is a big ship on the stocks anywhere, it exercises its effect, and there is a corresponding fillip all round. How absurd this method of action is may be readily perceived if we transfer it to military regions. Russia has three battalions to her infantry regiments, and so another Power decides to have four. England has only one, in some cases, and so Russia decides to have only one. The Navy, too, decays as rapidly as soldiers do, but the decay is less perceived, and patching goes on continually. As we use now more freely, the decay is more rapid. It follows that, if we do not continually build fresh ships, we are in the position of the Irishman who put his kettle into the sea in order that he might know where to find it when he wanted it. We know where our vessels are, but we cannot put them to any practical purpose. Our fleet may look imposing, but it is likely to end in the same way as the one Tennyson describes, which "clinked, clashed, and vanished."

We have been led to these reflections by noticing what has occurred in the United States. The impolitic plan of reducing the Army has been demonstrated by the railway riots, and now the Navy has had its turn. Most observers have long been convinced of the slowly deteriorating, obsolete character of its fleet, and Americans have themselves acknowledged the fact. Perhaps if some of the rioters had tried the trick of the *Huascar* with one of the best iron-clads, there would have been simultaneous outcry against reductions in the Admiralty. Fortunately, this humiliation has been spared a sensitive people. But what will they say of the simple arrangement made in the half yearly Register, just issued, by which any one can see what a long list of incapables there are. The figure 0 appears against all vessels considered as of zero value, and it is a portentous list. Amongst first rate vessels so designated we find the *Niagara*; amongst the second rates, *Connecticut*, *Iowa*, *Antietam*, *Java*, *Pennsylvania*, *Lancaster*, *Congress*, and *Worcester*; amongst third rates, *Kansas*, *Nyack*, and *Shawmut*; and amongst wooden sailing vessels, the *New Orleans* (which has been on the stocks at Sackett's Harbor for the last fifty years), *Ohio*, *Sabine*, and *Cyane*. Four iron-clads are thus relegated to the bad—namely, the *Colossus*, 10 guns, 2,127 tons; the *Massachusetts*, 4 guns, 2,127 tons; the *Oregon*, 4 guns, 1,127 tons; and the *Roanoke*, 6 guns, 2,260 tons. The yard tug *Pilgrim* is also included in the condemned list. One of two of these ships has never been completed. But they make a serious deduction from the actual or assumed strength of the Navy. The totals, as they figure on the register, are—143 vessels, 1,129 guns, 145,430 horse power: but when we have deducted 21 vessels, 286 guns, and a tonnage of 89,145, we have the following—ships, 122; guns, 893; tonnage, 106,285. Another reduction has to be made to reach any thing like a fair estimate of the real, available strength of the United States Navy. Laid up, in ordinary, etc., are 23 other vessels, representing 207 guns, and a tonnage of 26,446. Most of these vessels are ocean steamers, not iron-clads, and they might just as well have had the figure 0 put against them. By omitting them we bring the ships down to 99, guns to 686, and tonnage to 79,839.

It is as well to ascertain more exactly the fighting strength of this remarkable Navy—a Navy which, as a friendly critic says, "resolves itself into a schedule of comparatively harmless steamers, obsolete wooden sailing vessels, leaky and unfinished iron-clads, and insignificant tugs." Six iron-clads are under repair—so that their case is not quite desperate—and five wooden vessels. There are eleven iron-clads in commission, and twenty-one cruising vessels, exclusive of four vessels on special service. Probably seventeen iron-clads, mounting thirty-four guns, may be taken as representing the positive fighting capacity of the United States Navy. Some of the wooden cruising vessels would stand fire and be of use, but they may almost be classed as non-combatants in these days of iron-clads. We notice only two torpedo boats—the *Intrepid*, in commission at New York, and the *Alarm*, at Newport—but no doubt this class will increase. A single vessel stands in the list as being "fitted out." Indeed, it almost seems as if the United States Navy was destined to perish of inanition. The Army has been starved down to a point at which it can barely cope with a few hundred nimble-footed Indians and labor rioters at one and the same period of time, whilst the Navy has been deliberately left to go to the dogs.

Our American cousins might have been intentionally playing the part of the drunken Helot for us, in the interests of temperance. They have certainly shown us to what absurdities a false economy may drive us. There is no Joseph Hume nowadays, but there are, unfortunately, economists of a far worse type who insinuate, brag—and do nothing. They are the least of all the M. P.'s in Committee of Supply. But they dilate like figures in pantomimes, when they are safe miles away from Westminster, amongst an inland, narrow-listed people. We command to them the American sample of what economy can bring a Navy to, by refusing to believe that it can wear out, by declining to add yearly to its normal strength, and by

dreams of perpetual Geneva arbitrations, with good indemnities every time. Nothing more instructive is to be found in the range of modern politics.

## GENERAL SKOBELEFF.

So many times has the name of this daring young leader appeared in the news of the war of late that some account of his peculiarities may not be devoid of interest. The *United Service Gazette* says of him: Major-Gen. Skobeleff, the younger, whose personal bravery and other eminent qualities as a leader of fighting men have been conspicuous since the commencement of the campaign, has been promoted to lieutenant-general, and takes command of the 16th Division—a wonderful rank and position, earned wholly through merit, by an officer not yet thirty-three years of age. He can now command an army in the field, and possibly will soon do so.

The best idea of Skobeleff's method of fighting is gained from Col. Forbes' description of his attack on the redoubt at Plevna. Col. Forbes is the correspondent of the London *Daily News* at Plevna, and was an eyewitness of the assault. The redoubt Skobeleff was attacking was a double redoubt, in the bend of the Loftcha road down near Plevna. He had advanced his troops down the slope of the mountain to within easy range. As the Turks immediately opened fire upon him from the redoubt he returned the fire with steadiness and precision, putting his men under cover as much as possible, his cannon pouring a steady stream of shell and canister into the redoubt as well. In fact he worked his cannon so much that several pieces have been spoiled. He had evidently determined to risk everything to capture this redoubt, and it Plevna were not taken it would not be his fault. For three hours he kept up this fire, and just after Kriloff's second repulse, the Turkish fire having somewhat relaxed, dominated by the Russian, he thought the moment had come for making the assault.

"He had four regiments of the line and four battalions of sharpshooters. Still keeping up his murderous fire, he formed under its cover two regiments, the Vladimirschi and the Zoozolski, in the little hollow at the foot of the low hill on which was built the redoubt, together with two battalions of sharpshooters, not more than twelve hundred yards from the scarp. Then placing himself in the best position for watching the result, he ceased fire, and ordered the advance. He ordered the assaulting party not to fire, and they rushed forward with their guns on their shoulders, with music playing and banners flying, and disappeared in the fog and smoke. Skobeleff is the only general who places himself near enough to feel the pulse of a battle. The advancing column was indistinctly seen, a dark mass in the fog and smoke. Feeling, as it were, every throb of the battle, he saw this line begin to waver and hesitate. Upon the instant he hurled forward a rival regiment to support, and again watched the result. This new force carried the mass further on with its momentum, but the Turkish redoubt flamed and smoked, and poured forth such a torrent of bullets that the line was again shaken. Skobeleff stood in this shower of balls unshaken. All his escort were killed or wounded, even to the little Kirghiz, who received a bullet in the shoulder. Again he saw the line hesitate and waver, and he flung his fourth and last regiment, the Libausky, on the glacis. Again this new wave carried the preceding ones forward, until they were almost on the scarp; but that deadly shower of bullets still poured upon them; men dropped by hundreds, and the result still remained doubtful. The line once more wavered and hesitated. Not a moment was to be lost if the redoubt was to be carried. Skobeleff had now only two battalions of sharpshooters left. Putting himself at the head of these, he dashed forward on horseback. He picked up the stragglers; he reached the wavering, fluctuating mass, and gave it the inspiration of his own courage and instruction. He picked the whole mass up and carried it forward with a rush and a cheer. The whole redoubt was a mass of flame and smoke, from which screams, shouts, and cries of agony and defiance arose, with the deep-mouth bellowing of the cannon, and above all, the steady, awful crash of that deadly rifle fire. Skobeleff's sword was cut in two in the middle. Then a moment later, when just on the point of leaping the ditch, horse and man rolled together to the ground, the horse dead or wounded, the rider untouched. He sprang to his feet with a shout, then with a formidable, savage yell the whole mass of men streamed over the ditch, over the scarp and counter-scarp, over the parapet, and swept into the redoubt like a hurricane. Their bayonets make short work of the Turks still remaining. Then a joyous cheer told that the redoubt was captured, and that at last one of the defences of Plevna was in the hands of the Russians.

"Having seen as much as I have seen of the Turkish infantry fire from behind trenches and walls, I thought it was beyond flesh and blood to break it, a belief which had been strengthened by Kriloff's repulse, which I had just witnessed. Skobeleff proved the contrary, but at what a sacrifice! In that short rush of a few hundred yards, three thousand men had been left on the hill-side, on the glacis, the scarp, and the ditch—one-fourth of his whole force."

Nevertheless, such was the supineness of the Russian commander-in-chief, that he refused to send Skobeleff enough men to hold the redoubt from the Turks, who advanced to recapture it with large reinforcements, and the heroic general was forced from his conquest. Then says Col. Forbes:

"It was just after this that I met Gen. Skobeleff, the first time that day. He was in a fearful state of excitement and fury. His uniform was covered with mud and filth; his sword broken; his Cross of St. George twisted round on his shoulder; his face black with powder and smoke; his eyes haggard and blood-shot, and his voice quite gone. He spoke in a hoarse

whisper. I never before saw such a picture of battle as he presented. I saw him again in his tent at night. He was quite calm and collected. He said, 'I have done my best; I could do no more. My detachment is half destroyed; my regiments do not exist; I have no officers left; they sent me no reinforcements, and I have lost three guns.' They were three of the four guns which he placed in the redoubt upon taking it, only one of which his retreating troops had been able to carry off. 'Why did they refuse you reinforcements?' I asked. 'Who was to blame?' 'I blame nobody,' he replied. 'It is the will of God.'"

**MILITARY ORDER.**—The New York Commandery of the Military Order had a very pleasant meeting at Delmonico's, on Wednesday evening, October 3d, 48 members being present, including Generals Clitz and Devins of the Army; Commodore Ransom, Capt. Braine and other officers of the Navy. The following new members were elected: Capt. Robert P. Wilson, Brevet Brigadier General James E. Curtiss, Brevet Lieutenant Colonel Joseph S. Lowery, Brevet Brigadier General James G. Grindlay, Captain Edward A. Tallman.

The California Commandery had their quarterly meeting September 26. After the transaction of business, the Commandery adjourned to the Baldwin Hotel, where they partook of a supper. General John F. Miller presided, assisted by Pay Director John S. Cunningham, U. S. N. Among those present were General John F. Miller, Pay Director John S. Cunningham, Colonel Nelson, Colonel W. R. Smedberg, Colonel T. H. Goodman, Colonel Oliver Hawes, Col. C. Mason Kiane, General Christiansen, Colonel John Stuart, Major S. W. Backus, Major Wm. Gouverneur Morris, Major Rumrell, Captain N. T. Messer, Captain Dimond. After the festivities, on invitation of J. B. Pond, a member of the Order, the company adjourned to the opera.

**ALASKA.**—We gave some account last week of the report brought by Chaplain Collins of the condition of things in this territory. The Chaplain writes us further as follows: "I will not discuss the wisdom of purchasing Alaska. The purchase has been made. It is the only territory that pays a revenue into the Treasury. Two small islands, fifteen hundred miles west of Sitka, pay \$256,000. They are leased to a fur company. Salmon and codfish swarm in the water. The mining interests, now undeveloped, will yet attract general attention. But without some kind of government, a territory ten times larger than the State of Pennsylvania will soon be worthless. We have purchased the country and should we not protect it? The Indians laugh at cutters and boast that they can easily capture them. Soldiers are useless except to protect the particular locality in which they are stationed. One naval ship cruising in those waters would answer all desirable purposes, and if, like English officers, the officers should employ their leisure hours in surveying the coast, the gain would be great." It is certainly a contemptible position for a great Government to be placed in to abandon any portion of its territory to lawlessness.

**THE ARIZONA TELEGRAPH.**—In his annual report Gen. Kautz, commanding the Department of Arizona, thus refers to the telegraph: During the past year this line has been extended to Camp Bowie, and from there to Ralston in New Mexico. A great deal of the old original wire has been reconstructed and repaired, whilst the extensions in the direction of Camp Thomas and Camp Apache have advanced far towards completion. The greatly increased amount of work has been quite tax upon the troops and upon the Quartermaster's Department during the last year. By reference to the report of the chief quartermaster, it will be seen that the cost for the past year amounts to \$14,429.63. To offset this expenditure, the officer in charge of the line reports that the purely official business transacted over the line in the Department, at Government rates would amount to \$9,295.95. It greatly facilitates the necessary business in the management of troops, particularly when they are required in the field, saving both time and expense. The cost for several years to come, will be about half what it has been in the past year, as it will include only necessary repairs. When completed to Camp Apache, the line will almost encircle the San Carlos reservation, and will be of great service in case of a disturbance by the Indians. It is well worth the cost to the public service, besides being invaluable in the progress of the territory. Some of the expenses assumed by the Quartermaster's Department, should have been paid out of special appropriation, but the line was highly necessary and could only be extended and kept in order by the aid of the Quartermaster's Department and troops.

**THE new fortifications of Rome under the government of Victor Emmanuel are to be as follows:** In the first place, the old ramparts surrounding the city are to be restored; batteries constructed behind the same, and armed with guns of position. Secondly, earthworks are to be erected in the environs of the town at Farnesina, Monte Mario, Pont Nomentano, Porta-Paccio, San Onofre, Valconuta, the junction of the Pisona and Casetta roads, Madonella, the tomb of Cecilia Metella, and the town of Pignaterra. Thirdly, the entrenched camp at Civita Vecchia is to be repaired, and materially strengthened on the side facing the sea. A strong redoubt is to be built on the Monte Capuccini, near the baths of Trajan, and on the road leading to Tolfa, Menziana, and Lake Bratianno. Fourthly, batteries are to be built on the hill of Sant' Egidio, above Corneto, and on Cape Argentario. Of all the above works the fort on Monte Mario will be the strongest; the intention being to construct it to a great extent of masonry, and similar in profile and plan to the detached forts lately built by the Germans at Metz and Strasburg.

## THE NATIONAL GUARD.

N. R. A.—A special meeting of the Directors N. R. A. will be held next Thursday, October 18, to consult with Sir Henry Halford before he leaves for England as to the practicability of a real international match next year.

DISCIPLINE.—The following communication, in reference to the manner in which discipline is carried out in one of our city regiments, may serve to enlighten the field officers as to the doings of their subordinates. We suppress the title of the company and regiment, out of respect to the good officers of the organization:

"New York City, Oct. 8, 1877.

"To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

"Sir: During last July's labor troubles, our regiment was called out, and they have lately been paid off for their services there, and according to General Orders they were to apply in citizen's clothes for their money; but two days before pay day, —, company, Captain — command, were notified to attend in uniform. They did so, and after receiving the dollar a day (some cheated at that) they were paraded in the drill room three-quarters of an hour, then marched to Lieut. — bar-room. What a fall was there, from self-respect to this basement. The commissioned officers attempted to levy fifty cents a man, for a joint drunk, but the boys rebelling against this tax, it fell through, and all were free to get drunk or keep sober, as they saw fit. One o'clock A. M. "fall in" was given, and on the way home the Captain drew his sword on one of the men, and only for timely interference, would probably have murdered him. A police officer also interfered, but the Captain claimed his right of taking care of his men, and rightly or wrongly, had his claim allowed, instead of being locked up as he richly deserved. After compromising with the policeman, he again set on his subordinate, and it was by running away that the man escaped with a whole skin. Men in uniform obliged to obey orders in marching from one low haunt to another, and, being unarmed, endanger their lives, at the hands of drunken, armed officers? When, where, or how should a private seek redress? No other company has the same cause to complain. The commandants of the companies of the regiment are gentlemen, and use their men right, and our company will be used like men, or know the reason why. They never put a State uniform on to be slaves. In soldiering they will be second to none, but getting drunk is not soldiering, nor will they be led nor driven into it.

"I am, sir, etc.,

A RAW RECRUIT."

We strongly advise our correspondent to complain to his regimental commander and ask for redress, as provided for in Art. 30, Articles of War, published in General Regulations, S. N. Y.

COMPANY DRILLS.—Company organizations are the nucleus of the regiment, and without good companies it is impossible to have a good regiment. The defects of a regiment are readily noted at a battalion drill, but how seldom are the faults and errors of companies traced to their captain head, the company or squad drill room. In years past it has been our duty, and not always an agreeable one, to point out errors during the drills of our National Guard regiments, and yet during the coming course of instruction we shall probably have the same ground to go over again. Many of the mistakes and blunders at battalion drills are repeated again and again, because the commanding officer of the battalion dislikes to correct his officers before the audience usually assembled to witness the movements of his regiment, or he quietly passes them over, thinking that they will not be observed by the spectators, and so the officer is never corrected. Another cause of blunders at battalion drills is the sudden calling of junior officers to command companies. These juniors are never allowed to become familiar with the giving of commands at company drills, nor are the men accustomed to their voices, consequently the officers become afraid when suddenly called upon, while the men become nervous and often demoralized. The drill season of 1877 and 1878 has now fairly opened, and as the particular province of the JOURNAL is to assist the National Guard in maintaining its present proud position, we propose to make a specialty this winter of criticizing company drills, not in a spirit of fault-finding, but for the purpose of aiding officers and sergeants in perfecting themselves and their organizations. There are many little details which may escape the notice of even the best instructor, and yet be very palpable to disinterested spectators. One of the worst troubles of company commanders is the late arrival of the men, and although roll-calls are ordered for eight o'clock it is very often at least half-past eight before the sergeant orders "fall in." This "fall in" too, we are sorry to say, seldom obeyed with the required promptness; the men straggle and take their time to obey. This latter fault is still more often observed when the first sergeant is absent and one of the juniors takes his place. Like the lieutenants, the sergeants are seldom called upon to perform any duty but stand or march in the rank of file-closers. The duty of these file-closers also needs looking after. The tendency in many organizations is for these men to merely lounge around and allow the captain to make the necessary corrections in the rear rank. Lieutenants and sergeants study hard when first elected in order to pass the required examination, but from want of any duty to perform they soon lose interest and forget what they have learned. The captain, too, often does not seem to care; there is seldom a field officer detailed to supervise company drills and correct the faults of officers and sergeants; and so the same mistakes are made week in week out, during the whole season, and men who would become good officers and sergeants under proper care and encouragement are allowed to become mere blocks in the rank of file-closers. We have carefully considered this subject of attending the company drills of the New York and Brooklyn regiments and noting the errors of poor instruction and lax discipline, in the hope that the very notice of our intended visits will be the means of spurring officers and sergeants to occasionally read a page of the tactics, and insist on promptness in assembling.

MILITARY EXCURSIONS.—The following from the *Volunteer Service Gazette* of London is by no means inapplicable to the militia of many States that we could name. The *Gazette* says:

It has been apparent for some time that the military authorities in Fall Mail have not looked with a very kindly eye upon the visits of volunteers in their corporate capacity to foreign countries to attend rifle meetings; and fully recognizing the good spirit that prompted the management of these visits in the past, we think these deserts of British riflemen in Belgium and elsewhere did not in the result bring any benefit to the Volunteer Service, even if it brought no harm. For this reason we have not found ourselves able to regret that the former indifference in the matter shown by the War Office has more recently changed to decided discouragement. Now that the conditions of service are yearly getting more stringent, and that inspecting officers and brigadiers exact higher efficiency from the regiments brought before them, volunteers have really no time for mere show displays; and the determination at which the War Office have arrived to forbid men to wear their uniforms in or take government arms to foreign countries, is one that cannot but tend to the discipline of the force.

We quote the above to show that the authorities in Great Britain disconcern the mere visits of rifle teams. How much more then would they discourage the system of company and regimental excursions so much in vogue among our National Guardsmen? It has been repeatedly asserted that "all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy," and

the assertion is true; but when the play is hurtful it is time that a stop was put to it. An invitation is extended to a company or regiment to visit a sister organization in another city or State. It is promptly received, accepted, and immediate steps are taken to carry out a prescribed programme. Now let us analyze the great majority of these programmes, and from a statement of facts find whether they tend to raise the tone of our citizen soldiers. To begin at the beginning, it is requisite that a certain number of uniformed men should represent the organization about to make the visit, and as there are always men who cannot spare the time to make the excursion, friends of the members are invited to join for the time being, viz., the trip. These men are uniformed and equipped, and are heart and soul in the project. Secondly, a certain amount of money must be raised, and no matter what the state of the treasury the proposed visit must be carried to completion. Committees are appointed and every detail worked up; but in these details there is a total absence of instruction in the rudiments of the duties of the soldier. "Tis merely a spree," and drill and discipline are not needed. Besides, it would be impossible to perfect the new men in the short time allowed for preparation. The proposed visit takes place, and what is the result? Disgust and discouragement. The troops are marched here and there to the delight of the small boys and loungers who may congregate to witness their supposed perfection. A collation follows, during which beverages of all descriptions are consumed, and when the men might better rest, they are ordered to fall in for review, etc. We have witnessed more than one of these ceremonies, under the above conditions, and have never yet seen one that satisfied the reviewed or reviewers. The glories of fuss and feathers are fully demonstrated, however, and as a rule officers are satisfied. But how about the men? The command being dismissed, the visiting officers become the guests of the visited organization, while the rank and file are left to their own sweet will. Result, what might be expected, discontent and dissatisfaction. Finally, all return, and the setting up day arrives. The loaned uniforms are hard to recover, and when found are usually in a very deplorable state. Many, in fact the greater number of the men, have expended all their loose cash during the trip, and have not the wherewithal to settle their accounts, while numbers freely condemn the officers for having allowed them the "freedom of the city" while on their visit, and often loudly censure the action of their superiors. "Twas only a spree," is the common talk. The treasury is depleted to make good the expense of the trip, the men are in debt and are likely to absent themselves from drills and meetings, officers are harassed with the shortcomings of their commands while away, on account of the borrowed soldiers who have no interest in the company and regiment, while all express the liveliest disgust at the result of the junket. This is no fancy sketch, but the general result of all such visits, and we hope that in the time to come the excursions of our National Guard will be made for the purpose of perfecting the organizations in the full duties of officers and soldiers. One week's camp duty is worth twenty sprees, and the lesson taught our regiments during the late labor riots ought not soon to be forgotten. If officers will labor to make true soldiers of their men, we are assured that the rank and file will second their every effort. The duty at Creedmoor can be made pleasant and instructive, and if a course of preparatory drill in the duties of camp life is instituted this season in the armories, there will be less cause of complaint and fault-finding next summer. Give up junketing and stick to the true duty of soldiers.

SEVENTH NEW YORK.—The storm of October 4 having caused a postponement of the ceremonies of laying the corner stone of the new armory, the regiment is ordered to parade for this purpose on Saturday, October 13. All the arrangements made for October 4 are continued, and tickets of admission to platform and reserved space for that date will be accepted on October 13.

FIFTH NEW YORK.—Division, company and squad drills in this command are ordered to be resumed. The companies will assemble in fatigue uniform at the armory at 8 o'clock p. m. in the following order: A and K on Mondays, C and B on Tuesdays, E and F on Wednesdays, D and G on Thursdays, and I and H on Fridays, commencing October 15 and ending December 21. The commissioned officers are directed to meet in citizen's dress at the armory every Thursday evening at eight o'clock p. m. for theoretical instruction; the non-commissioned officers, in fatigue uniform, at the armory at 8 o'clock on Fridays, October 13, November 16 and December 14. Commandants of companies are cautioned that company drills are only permitted with a front of sixteen files; when a deficiency exists in this number, only squad drills can be had. Col. Spencer intends to make hard work the "order of the day" in his regiment. With the New Year, the men will be in proper shape for instruction in the school of the battalion, while officers and non-coms. ought to be in condition to second the efforts of their colonel.

THIRTY-SECOND NEW YORK.—Preparatory to the annual inspection and muster of this regiment on October 16 a parade through the principal streets of Williamsburgh will exhibit the fact that the regiment has increased wonderfully since the last inspection, and in its new uniform—the field and staff mounted—will present a handsome appearance. Col. Rueger deserves credit for the economical manner in which he conducts the affairs of the regiment, and parading mounted, ought to be followed by the other organizations. Co. E, 32d regiment, Capt. Waage, has adopted the name of "Beebe Rifles," in honor of Brig.-Gen. Ira L. Beebe, commanding 11th Brigade. The Beebe Rifles, Co. I, will enjoy its annual ball on Oct. 29.

FOORTY-SEVENTH BROOKLYN.—This regiment will drill at the armory, preparatory to inspection, on Monday, Oct. 15. The command will proceed to the Union Ball Grounds for annual inspection and muster on Oct. 18. The commissioned officers are ordered for drill and instruction at the armory on Oct. 12, at 8 p. m.

SIXTY-NINTH NEW YORK.—The commissioned officers of this regiment are directed to assemble for theoretical instruction at the armory on Oct. 12, 13, and 14, and the non-commissioned officers, guides, marksmen and color guard on Oct. 15 and 19. The following changes are announced in the non-commissioned staff: Ordnance Sergeant James Rice to be quartermaster sergeant, Sergeant Jas. Cunningham to be ordnance sergeant. The following corporals will hereafter constitute the color guard: Thomas Carney, Co. G; Patrick Brennan, Co. B; Dennis Dunn, Co. A; John C. Morrison, Co. K; Wm. M. Goldrich and Maurice Moynihan, Co. I, and William Sheehan, Co. F. The following members are detailed as marksmen: John H. Hernon, Co. A; John Callahan, Co. F; Patrick Kelly, Co. E, and George O'Brien, Co. K. Reduced to the ranks for neglect of duty, Corporal James King, Co. H. Expelled for non-payment of dues and continual neglect of duty, Privates John McBride, Michael Hogan, Martin J. Kearns, John Hines, Patrick McDonough, Patrick T. Connors, Thomas Barragree, Thomas McNamara, and James Gilchrist. The examining board for non-commissioned officers will meet at the armory on Oct. 17.

SEVENTY-FIRST NEW YORK.—The drum corps of this command entertained the officers of the regiment on Saturday evening last with an exhibition of the drum service. The calls were beaten in first class style, while the tattoo and reveille were finished in true Army fashion. Later in the evening the corps insisted on the officers partaking of their hospitality.

BATTERY K, FIRST NEW YORK DIVISION.—Since the receipt of his new pieces, Capt. Hoezle has been anxious to give his command a day's practice in the field; so on Monday last, October 8, the battery was assembled at the State Arsenal at 8.30 A. M. The usual preparations were quickly made, horses harnessed, guns and caissons limbered, and at 9.15 the command, six guns and caissons and 80 men, took up its line of march for Prospect Park, Brooklyn, for a field day. The park was reached at 11.30 A. M., and the command formed for drill in the school of the battery. The several movements were fairly executed, the captain being everywhere at once, looking after the green men. A rest was then taken and the artillerymen ate their lunch. At 2 P. M. assembly was again sounded, the battery was formed, and a two hours and a half drill was held. The officers and non-commissioned officers were well up in their several duties, but the recruits and green horses made the execution of the several movements tedious. The men were out for instruction, however, and Capt. Hoezle repeated the movements until they were well understood. The cannoneers were prompt and active, the service of the guns being excellent, but the changes of front were marred by the horses. At 4.30 the command started for New York, reaching the arsenal at 7.30. Capt. Hoezle is well pleased with his drill, and is enthusiastic on the services of his officers, Lieuts. Doech, Thom and Hamman.

SECOND NEW YORK DIVISION.—The officers and men of this division finished the season's rifle practice at Creedmoor on Oct. 4, and notwithstanding the disagreeable weather, a very fair record was made. Gen. Dakin, the division commander, was present, but his brigade commanders were noticeable for their absence. Col. Valen in, division inspector of rifle practice, superintended the firing. The distances were 200 and 500 yards, five shots at each range. The following are the scores of the winners of the marksmen's badges:

Second Division Staff.—Major-Gen. Dakin, 31; Col. B. E. Valentine, 36; Col. Bissell, 32.

Eleventh Brigade Staff.—Major Manning, 41; Capt. Marshall, 32; Capt. Hoyt, 29; Major Hayes, 28; Major Cameron, 28; Capt. Rossiter, 28; Lieut. Jones, 27.

Fifth Brigade Staff.—Major H. S. Jewell, 27; Capt. Boynton, 25; Major Ivins, 25.

First Company, Flushing.—Drummer Holmes, 35; Lieut. Roukens, 34; Private Koch, 31; Private Daly, 30; Private Stone Banks, 28; Capt. Robinson, 26.

Gatling Battery.—Sergt. Moog, 34; Corp. Harold, 34; Private Bramhall, 25; Private Stuart, 25.

Thirteenth Regiment.—Sergt. Hogg, 40; Capt. W. A. Brown, 36; Capt. Pedroncelli, 28; Lieut. Grimm, 28; Lieut. Smith, 27; Private Ilunett, 26; Sergt. Palette, 25; Private Peabody, 25.

Fourteenth Regiment.—Lieut. Nutt, 36; Private Perry, 31; Lieut. Cutis, 29; Sergt. Stellingworth, 28; Sergt. Schurig, 27; Private F. E. Jones, 26; Private Merz, 26; Capt. Mitchell, 26; Capt. Cardona, 26.

Fifteenth Battalion.—Capt. Alsogood, 36; Private Kaiser, 30; Sergt. Lundendorf, 29; Capt. Van Deen, 28; Capt. Carroll, 28; Capt. Miller, 27; Major Rappaport, 26; Private Schuchardt, 26; Private Weber, 26; Private Meight, 25.

Twenty-eighth Regiment.—Private Diedrich, 33; Capt. Hartman, 31; Private Roskof, 30; Sergt. Lutz, 29; Surg. Gron, 25.

Twenty-third Regiment.—Lieut. Wilkinson, 30; Private Winser, 29; Private Fiske, 29; Sergt. Van Ingen, 28; Lieut. Haviland, 26; Quartermaster Budd, 26.

Forty-seventh Regiment.—Capt. Brown, 41; Private Hammond, 26; Private Canipise, 26.

FIFTH NEW YORK DIVISION.—The third annual prize meeting of this division was held at Glen Drake on Oct. 5, with four teams as competitors. The weather was bad, the high winds almost demoralizing the marksmen, while the troubles in the camp on the night previous to the match, caused by the terrible storm, did not tend to steady the nerves of the competitors. Major-General Husted and Brigadier-General Blauvelt were on the range with their staffs, while Colonel John Bodine, division inspector of rifle practice, superintended the shooting. The conditions were: Teams of twelve from each organization in the division; distances, 200, 300 and 500 yards; standing, kneeling and lying, five shots at each range. The 20th Battalion won the prize with 545 out of the possible 900 points. The following are the scores:

	200 yds.	300 yds.	500 yds.	Tot.
20th Battalion, Kingston...	197	205	143	545
21st Regt., Poughkeepsie...	184	164	190	538
27th Regt., Mount Vernon...	200	128	139	467
16th Battalion, Yonkers...	162	127	79	368

SIXTH NEW YORK DIVISION.—The fall meeting of the 6th Division Rifle Association was held at the East Syracuse range on Oct. 4, 5 and 6. The prominent match of this meeting was the contest for the division prizes, teams from the 44th, 48th, 49th and 51st regiments being entered. The shooting of our western organizations has astonished the natives at Creedmoor, and the usual fine practice was expected. The 49th have always been fortunate in these home matches, while the 48th have been the victors at Creedmoor, consequently a very lively contention has usually taken place between these teams at Syracuse. In this match each team shot its best, but the wind pulled down the high scores. At 200 yards the 49th were ahead with 164, the 48th second with 153, and the 44th third with 146. At the 500 yards the shooting of both teams was good, but the 49th held the lead at the close, winning by only one point. The following scores were made by the teams:

	200 yds.	500 yds.	Tot.
49th Regiment Team.....	164	132	296
48th Regiment Team.....	153	142	295
44th Regiment Team.....	146	127	273
48th Regiment (2d) Team.....	135	108	243
51st Regiment Team.....	119	82	201

The individual prizes were won by Lieut. J. S. Barton of the 48th, and Private H. A. Van Guilder of the 49th. The short range prizes were won by James Larned, 44th Battalion, 29; John McCartin, 49th regiment, 29; Frederick Holmes, 44th Battalion, 28; and P. H. Stafford, 49th regiment, 28.

The Duncan badge match, open only to National Guardsmen, was poorly attended, and was won by Private D. H. Ogden, 44th Battalion, wit 20, 18-38. The officers' match, 200 yards, on the other hand brought out the best men, and a spirited contest was had, the prizes falling to Lieut. M. B. Nicholson, Yates Dragoons, 42; Major F. B. Chapman, staff 24th Brigade, 41; Lieut. J. S. Barton, 48th regiment, 41; and Capt. J. Figari, 44th Battalion, 40. The officers' badge, 51st regiment, was again placed in competition, but its announcement only made the weakness of the regiment more apparent. There are very few riflemen in this command, as shown by the lack of interest in the officers. Only three responded in this contest, Lieut.-Col. Griffin winning with 20, 6-26, out of the possible 50. Col. Wingate might visit Syracuse with benefit to this regiment. The long range match closed the meeting, Private Horace Warner, Co. D, 51st regiment, winning first prize.

MASSACHUSETTS.—The Ancient and Honorable Artillery of Boston has celebrated its 240th anniversary. The "Ancients" having decided to hold their fall field day in Hartford, Conn., made all the necessary arrangements, and pursuant to orders assembled at their armory, Faneuil Hall, Monday morning, October 1, at 8 o'clock. At 9:30 line was formed, followed by the inevitable fours right, and headed by Drum-Major De Longe, 4th Massachusetts Battalion, with Reeve's American Band of Providence, Rhode Island, and ye ancient martial music. The line of march was taken up through South Market, Commercial, up State (where thousands of people had assembled to see them off), thence passing up Washington and through Elliott, arriving at the Providence depot at 10:15, where they embarked on board a special train, and amid the rousing cheers of their many friends were soon on their way to the Charter Oak City. The party numbered nearly three hundred, and a more joyful set never boarded a train. A committee from the Putnam Phalanx, consisting of Quartermaster Alvin Squires, Ensign B. G. Baldwin, and Surgeon P. D. Pelletier, met the company at Willimantic, and received a hearty welcome from the Ancients. As the train entered the Hartford depot, a salute of thirteen guns was fired in the Park. The company on debarking formed in Union Place, where they were welcomed to the city by his Honor Mayor Sprague, who said that the citizens of Hartford were glad to receive and entertain, for even a short time, an organization with such an honorable record and such a fair reputation. Having lived for a time in Boston, he said it gave him special pleasure to welcome them, and he hoped their sojourn would be as pleasant as they anticipated. Commander Stevenson responded in behalf of the Ancients, returning thanks for courtesies already received, saying that the reputation of Hartford for hospitality was so widespread that the Ancients to-day paraded more men than had ever before turned out for a fall field day. The company then marched to Ford street, where a light collation was served. They next marched to Bushnell Park and were received by a battalion of the 1st regiment: C. N. G., Lieut.-Col. Barbour, one hundred and fifty men; Putnam Phalanx, Major F. M. Brown, sixty men, and Governor's Foot Guard, Major Talcott, sixty men, who escorted them through the principal streets of the city, giving the Governor a marching salute as they passed him in front of the old State House on Main street. On Asylum street the Ancients were tendered a marching salute, which terminated the parade. Stacking arms in Whittlesey Hall, the company was dismissed to their quarters at the hotels to which they were assigned. The enthusiasm all along the route was immense, the decorations very beautiful, as were also the ladies who thronged the balconies and windows, vieing with each other in doing honor to their antique visitors. The appearance of the Ancient Drum-Major (the absence of those monkey-faced actions, by which most of our country drum-majors make themselves appear so ridiculous), and the magnificent music of the American Band, attracted general comment and applause.

During this parade the men were all on their mettle, particularly during the salute to the Governor. The cadence was regular, alignments well preserved and distances excellent. Indeed it was hard to decide which was the best organization, so well did each one hold its own. The Phalanx and Governor's Foot Guards were fair, while the solid lines of the 1st Connecticut would be hard to excel. The Ancients, however, carried off the applause from the fair sex, and were the observed of all observers.

Shortly after 8 in the evening, the quarters of the visitors were invaded by the Hartford soldiers; uniforms, belts and epaulettes were adjusted, and under proper escort the Ancients were marched to Allyn Hall, where a grand ball was given by them in honor of the Putnam Phalanx. Here the "old uns" were placed under guard, the sentries being the lady friends and families of the Connecticut N. G., and the orders that no prisoner be allowed to escape were thoroughly carried out. The arrangements were simply perfect, the music fine, while the ladies out Herodet Herod, vieing with each other in attentions to the visitors. The party broke up at 3 in the morning, and was pronounced the finest ever held in Hartford. Among the notables present were Governor Hubbard and staff, ex-Governors Jewell and Hawley, Major-General Franklin, and Colonel Bissell. On Tuesday, the prominent places of interest in and around Hartford were visited, notably the Colt's Armory. The Ancients were received by General Franklin and Dr. Gatling, and were astonished at an exhibition of the wonderful working of one of his guns, 6,400 rounds being fired without fouling the piece. The Ancients were astonished at this improvement in war's destructive weapons, and insisted on discarding then and there their old flint locks, and each man arming himself with a battery. It took the combined persuasive powers of General Franklin, the Doctor, and the officers and men of the Phalanx to dissuade them from this undertaking. However they will make arrangements on their return to procure a stock of these weapons and be fully ready for all future emergencies.

At 1 o'clock a grand banquet was served in Allyn Hall. During the banquet the band discoursed some fine selections, and toward the close struck up "Tramp, Tramp the Boys are Marching," the company joining in the chorus. This was followed by "Marching Through Georgia," amid the widest enthusiasm and applause. Order being restored, Captain Stevenson made the address of welcome, closing with "to Captain Brown and the Putnam Phalanx, all the military of Hartford, to Governor Hubbard and the members of his staff, the press and citizens, and lastly, though not least, the fair ladies, who graced the hall on Monday night, are due my heartfelt thanks and the thanks of my command for their generous greeting. It has been my fortune to participate in many a fall field day, but never have marched through such solid lines of enthusiastic men and beautiful women as greeted the Ancients upon their arrival. To you, gentlemen of Hartford, we dip our colors." Thanking the guests of the company for their generous welcome, which had not been exceeded during the 240 years of the existence of the corps, he reciprocated the favor by extending to the Putnam Phalanx a cordial welcome to the entertainment.

Speeches were then made by Captain Brown of the Phalanx, Governors Hubbard and Hawley, General Banks and ex-Mayor Robinson. Major Charles W. Stevens read an original poem, but Mr. Clemens (Mark Twain) set the whole company by the ears with a history of his Missouri brigade during the late war. The hour having arrived for the departure of the visitors, the party broke up, and the Ancients escorted by the Phalanx marched to the railroad depot and left Hartford at 5:30 P. M., reaching Boston at about 10:30 that evening.

The American band, whose performances added immeasurably to the pleasure and success of the excursion, accompanied the Ancients home and preceded the company in its march to the armory. And thus was concluded, without rain or accident, a most successful and enjoyable celebration of the 240th Fall Field Day of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Boston.

FOURTH MASSACHUSETTS.—The 4th Battalion, M. V. M., will make its first annual fall parade (instead of the independent company parades as heretofore), on October 18. They will make a parade in Boston proper, then visit East

Boston, make a parade, have a banquet to be followed by a dress parade, after which they will return to their armory. In the evening the regimental band will give a grand concert under the direction of Mr. D. W. Reeves, and the auspices of the battalion. We wish "our Boston battalion" success, and hope the boys will "turn out" and give them a "round" as they march up State street.

PENNSYLVANIA.—The Pennsylvania National Guard joined in the Centennial celebration of the battle of Germantown on October 4, and notwithstanding the bad weather turned out in goodly numbers and appeared to fine advantage. The N. G. were given the right of the line. The Keystone battery fired a salute of one hundred guns on the battle field.

Major Wm. S. Kimball has been appointed quartermaster, Major John Wright, aide-de-camp; Lieut.-Col. Silas W. Petit, inspector, and Major B. K. Jamison, paymaster on the staff of the 1st Pennsylvania Division.

NEW JERSEY.—Teams from Cos. A and C, 4th Infantry, N. G. S. N. J., held a rifle contest at Tyler Park on October 4. The teams were six each; distance, 200 yards, ten shots. The match was for glory, but several individual prizes were offered by the officers. Co. C won the match with 210 against 158 of Co. A. Lieut. Standish, of Co. A, won the marksman's badge and Sergt. Lohman's badge for the best score of the day, 99 out of the possible 50. Private Noon won the badge of his team.

OHIO.—The Lytle Greys, of Cincinnati, and Champion City Guard, of Springfield, held a friendly rifle contest at the former city on October 4. The conditions were, teams of eight each, at 100 and 200 yards standing, ten shots at each distance. The shooting was very good, but the Greys were completely over-matched. However, the contest speaks well for the interest taken by the National Guard in rifle practice, and from present appearances Ohio will be well to the front next season. The score is as follows:

100 yds. 200 yds. Total
Guards..... 222 259 481
Greys..... 147 162 309

KENTUCKY.—A new military company, to be known as the Avery Light Guard, has been formed in Louisville, Ky. It has at present sixty-two members composed of the best young men of the west end. Its officers are: Captain, James Reccius; First Lieutenant, Henry Sago; Second Lieutenant, John M. Adams; Third Lieutenant, James Starr. James Ward has been chosen first sergeant. The company takes its name from Samuel L. Avery, Esq., one of Louisville's best citizens.

CALIFORNIA.—The California Inter-State rifle team, in charge of Gen. John McComb, reached San Francisco on the evening of October 3 and were escorted through the city by the California National Guard. The streets were lined with people and the victorious riflemen met with an enthusiastic reception. They merit all the honor they received.

Captain F. W. Pierce, Charles S. Triplett (late captain U. S. A.) and Sergeant Alfred Burr have been unanimously chosen captain, first and second lieutenants of Co. B, 2d regiment.

The Montgomery Guards, Co. A, 3d regiment, made some excellent scores in its last rifle practice, 200 yards, five rounds. Four members scored 21 each; three, 20; four, 19; three, 18, and so on down to the low man, 8. Thirty-five men participated, Captain Quinn superintending.

GENERAL JOHN E. BENDIX.—This gallant officer and warm friend of the National Guard departed this life, at his residence, New York city, on October 7, 1877, being 60 years of age. The General joined the old "Baxter Blues" in 1839 and commanded the company when it was C. of the 12th regiment. In 1859 he was elected lieutenant-colonel of the 9th Infantry, and when the State called for troops in 1861 he was one of the first to answer. He organized the 7th New York Vols., was mustered into service as its colonel, and after a short service in the field was transferred to the command of the 10th New York Vols. He served with distinction during the war, was badly wounded at Fredericksburg in 1862, and was brevetted brigadier-general for gallantry in action. He remained in active service until the close of the war. In November, 1865, he organized the 3d regiment, N. G. ("Bendix Zouaves"), the regiment being disbanded in 1869. On October 18, 1869, he was unanimously chosen colonel of the 5th regiment N. G., and served with this command until 1871, when poor health caused him to resign. As a soldier there were few better, and as a man he was honest and true. His funeral was largely attended by his late companions-in-arms and the Masonic fraternity of which he was a distinguished member.

#### VARIOUS ITEMS.

— The 21st New York (Poughkeepsie) held a battalion drill on October 9.

— Major John T. Fryer, of the 9th New York, has tendered his resignation.

— Capt. Richard V. Young, Co. H, 8th New York, was elected major of the regiment on October 8.

— Corp. T. W. Linton won the Seventh's "diamond badge" for the third time on October 6.

— The first annual fall prize meeting of the New Haven Rifle Association was held on the Quinnipiac range on October 10.

— John H. Phelan and Wm. Fanning, Jr., have been elected first and second lieutenants of Co. H, 12th New York.

— Col. Austin, of the 13th New York, has issued a circular for the reorganization of the cadet corps of the regiment.

— The 9th New Jersey were inspected at Newark on October 9-30 present. The command looked well, and holds its own in drill and discipline.

— Lieut. C. L. George C. Bradley, 47th Brooklyn, has been appointed member of the 11th New York Brigade Examining Board, on October 10. Wm. H. Brownell, relieved.

— Capt. Geo. E. Dodge and First Lieut. Alfred Roosevelt, A. C. 1st New York Brigade, have been commissioned by the Commander-in-Chief.

— The fifth competition for the Parker Shot Gun, long range, will be held at Creedmoor on October 10, 30 rounds at 1,000 yards.

— The Stock Exchange Rifle Club will shoot for the bronze medal N. R. A., at Creedmoor, on Wednesday, October 17, at 3 P. M., 300 yards.

— Lieut. S. F. Kneland, of the 9th New York, won the Irish-American Medal at Creedmoor on October 6, with 80 out of the possible 100.

— Mr. Wm. M. Farrow, of Providence, won the Sharps Rifle Company prize at Creedmoor on October 6. Score, 196 out of the possible 225; 300, 90 and 1,000 yards.

— The sixteenth anniversary of the organization of the Roxbury Horse Guards, Massachusetts, will be celebrated on October 21. The programme consists of a parade, banquet and reception in the evening.

— First Sergeant John N. Brindle, Co. K, and Daniel Brown Co. F, Corps, Geo. W. Berger, C. T. Hochstetler, Chas. Ryan and F. C. Carew, Co. H, 13th New York, have passed the regimental board of examination and are granted warrants.

— The Massachusetts Volunteer Militia Rifle Association will hold its first annual prize meeting at the camp ground, South Framingham, on October 22.

— The companies of the 71st New York have been holding full dress inspections during the past week, preparatory to the regular fall inspection.

— The 11th New York have received new knapsacks with dummy blankets. They will wear them for the first time on inspection.

— The 9th New York expect to lead the State in numbers present at the annual fall inspection. Bravo, Col. Hitchcock! The band and drum corps will sport their new full dress uniform, red coats, blue, gold, etc., on this occasion.

— At 3 o'clock P. M., October 17, the Wylie badge will be again placed in competition at Creedmoor. Open to members N. R. A. and N. G. S. Y.; 300 and 500 yards standing, seven shots at each distance.

— The Gatling Battery 11th New York Brigade, will parade for annual inspection and muster at Prospect Park on October 22. Assembly at 8 o'clock A. M. Drill in the morning; inspection at 4 P. M.

— First Lieutenant Andrew Hornbostle, Co. E, 5th, and First Lieutenant Noel R. Park, Co. H, 22d New York regiments, have passed the brigade examining board. First Lieutenant Charles M. Williams, Co. B, 12th regiment, failed to report for examination.

— Lieut.-Col. Fitzgerald, 7th New York, has been detailed to supervise all instruction in the School of the Company during the present season, and is charged with the duty of securing uniformity in and strict compliance with the prescribed tactics.

— The "Skirmisher Match," members of the N. R. A. and National Guard in uniform, will take place at Creedmoor on October 27 at 3 P. M. Same day, "Running Deer Match" for a Winchester rifle, 100 yards, any rifle.

— The "Dirty Match" was held at Creedmoor on October 10. Thirty-five entries, 200 yards; no cleaning. E. E. Lewis, 64; C. G. Zettler, 64; and J. F. Ratheny, 65, winners. A protest against the use of muzzle-loaders in this match was made and referred to the executive committee.

— The 7th Pennsylvania Division held a rifle tournament at Titusville on October 4 and 5. Teams from the companies in the division entered in competition at 200 and 300 yards, and with fine shooting the McLane Guards, of Erie, walked off with the best prizes. Pennsylvania will be heard from at Creedmoor next fall.

— The 16th Massachusetts held its annual reunion at Waltham October 4. The usual feast of reason, etc., was indulged in. The 6th Mass. Battery Association followed suit same day, while the Independent Cavalry Battalion reenacted on the 3d October at Waltham. Reunions are not as hard to bear as full dress inspections; ergo, companies out in full numbers.

#### ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

*The editor of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL must decline to decide points between officers and the men of their commands. No attention paid to fictitious signatures, unless accompanied by real name and address of writer.*

F. W.—The stations of all the regiments will be found under our Army heading. The 20th Cavalry, 2d and 3d Infantry are changing stations.

DIAMOND K ASKS: 1. Does the President appoint any candidates besides the sons of officers, and could I receive an appointment as cadet midshipman? 2. Is my writing suitable to pass the examination? ANSWER.—The matter lies entirely in the President's discretion, and you could hardly hope for such an appointment unless you could bring some personal influence to bear on him. 3. It might be improved, but if your grammar, spelling, arithmetic and geography were perfect the handwriting would not bar you out.

SARATOGA.—Boys enlisting in the Navy must be sixteen or seventeen, five feet one inch in height, thirty inches around the chest, of robust frame, intelligent, of perfectly sound and healthy constitution, free from any physical defects or malformation, not subject to fits, and able to read and write. They must have the consent of their parents, and must go before a board to determine their possession of these qualifications. Boys who do not reach this standard of height and measurement may be enlisted by special order of the Navy Department, if in all other respects desirable, and the board may in special cases pass those having an imperfect knowledge of reading and writing.

FINE POINTS.—An officer of the Army sends us the below questions which were by him addressed to Gen. Upton: 1. By paragraph 113, School of the Soldier (Inspection arms), when the inspecting officer has finished his inspection of a musket he "hands it back to the recruit, who receives it with the right hand and resumes the order." In returning to the order does the recruit move his left hand or not? 2. What is the position of an officer at parade rest without arms or with sword in scabbard? GEN. UPTON'S ANSWER.—1. The tactics are obscure on the first point to which you refer, but to make paragraph 113 conform to paragraph 114, the left hand should steady the piece in resuming the order when the piece is returned by the inspecting officer. 2. The position of officers at parade rest without arms or when the sword is in the scabbard is the same as that described in paragraph 21, School of the Soldier. Parade rest with arms folded is specially prescribed for a commanding officer at dress parade, and for officers of the day at guard-mounting.

THE importance of the shelter-trench in actual warfare, says the London *Naval and Military Gazette*, has been well illustrated in the Turkish defence of Pleven. There the infantry, instead of being kept massed in the redoubts, where the men would infallibly have been slaughtered wholesale by the Russian shells, was withdrawn and placed in shelter-trenches outside, from which it kept up such a fire as effectively stayed the onslaughts of the enemy. The trench employed by the Turks, and which appears to have very efficiently protected the men within it both from the artillery and musketry fire of the attackers, is described as being three feet deep, with a parapet in front never more than two feet high, extra earth for the construction of the latter being obtained, where necessary, from a ditch in front.

THE San Antonio (Texas) *Statesman* thus expresses itself on the personal traits of Gen. Ord: "Gen. Ord was in the city yesterday to confer with Gov. Hubbard. He is an eminently peaceable-looking man in any event. His whole toggery and outfit, when he leaped from the stage coach yesterday morning at the Raymond House, did not cost more than \$5. He wore a blue cotton shirt worth 40 cents, even at rates that would be fixed by an 'ole clo' man. The General's hat was absolutely villainously smashed, shocking and ancient, and his coat and breeches corresponded with his other articles of apparel. Nobody would have dreamed that a famous soldier of the Regular Army could be enveloped in so modest a garb. He is evidently not the man to blow his own horn or to spout like a whale. He would evince no anxiety for a conflict with Mexico, even if he felt it, and he will do nothing to precipitate it or render it unavoidable. He is a wise and discreet soldier, representing properly the Administration of President Hayes."

As we expected, the Turks and Russians, at both ends of their long line of operations, have sunk into comparative quietude, forced into winter quarters by the remorseless elements of rain, snow and mud. The Russians from appearances propose to settle down, having ordered huts of corrugated iron for 100,000 men. These huts are to be sent from London to Antwerp and thence direct to Bucharest by rail; and are to be made of four sizes, to hold twenty-five, fifty, a hundred, and five hundred men respectively. They are to be erected in the neighborhood of Bucharest. This shows that they are barracks for the reserve army, and makes it probable that the advanced force in Bulgaria will be reduced to the minimum to hold the fortifications necessary to cover the roads from the Danube to Shipka Pass. It is clear that the Russians have determined to hold Shipka for the winter if they can, not fancying a repetition of last summer's task, next spring. The question of whether they can hold it against the Turks is full of interest. The first frosts and thaws of the season have brought enough floating ice down the Danube to damage the Russian bridges, and the practicability of keeping open their communications for the winter across the river may come to depend on steam ferries before long. Whether under these circumstances the Grand Duke NICHOLAS will undertake to hold such an extended line as he now occupies is problematical, for in so doing he will run a great danger, even in winter. Marches being over for the year, sieges and bombardments are nevertheless in order, and we may look for weekly bulletins of minor assaults and sorties from and around Plevna, such as used to regale the American public in regard to Petersburg in the winter of 1864. The Armenian fight between the Grand Duke MICHAEL and MOUXTAR PASHA turns out to be a drawn battle, and the siege of Kars is again postponed.

#### FOREIGN ITEMS.

FRENCH soldiers cannot be made to eat German sausages, according to recent accounts. The experiment has been tried, but the Gaul rebels against the food, calling it "execrable." To Americans who have tried German cookery this may not appear surprising.

THE dispersed order now in practice in the French army seems, from late accounts, to be well understood by the men, and the officers are bound to keep their detachments well in order. It is still regretted that the captains are not mounted, as with the companies swollen by the reserve, it is impossible for a captain on foot to attend to his duties properly without being thoroughly knocked up.

AT a recent trial at Ramsgate, England, two men in Boyton dressers went into the water to demonstrate the efficiency of the dress in enabling individuals, without the aid of a boat, to discover and cut cables, to attach torpedoes, and to attack ships with hand grenades. One feature of the programme was to show that the swimmer with the dress could carry an electric firing apparatus on his breast, and, by means of a spar, attack the torpedo and fire it.

DURING the autumn manoeuvres in France, it seems that the Reservists were equipped this year with a rapidity which left nothing to be desired. It would have been difficult, says a French military critic, to have managed matters better. The officers, one and all, express their satisfaction with the men of the Reserve, most of whom, having served during the late war, were acquainted with the details of the Service and had a correct appreciation of discipline.

FOR the first time since the introduction of breech-loading rifles into the British army, the non-commissioned officers and men of the band of the Royal Engineers were ordered last week to Shorncliffe to go through a course of musketry instruction, by order of the Commander-in-Chief. This shows that the British are determined to make the bandsmen fight in future when necessary.

THE result of the inquiry into the affair of the betrayal of the mode of construction of the Uchatius gun is that an official of the Italian Consulate at Vienna acted as an intermediary between the clerk in the arsenal, Nachtnebel, and the Italian military attaché. A full account of the process of construction of the gun, together with descriptions of the Austrian fortresses, were, it appears, sold by Nachtnebel, and forwarded to Italy.

THERE is talk of abandoning the shelter tent in

France. Some of the objections urged against these little tents are that when men huddled together under them they became unwholesome in consequence of there not being sufficient air; and, then, they prove a formidable addition to the weight which the soldier carries. In wet weather to carry this soaked canvas is said to be exceedingly trying. In some corps it appears that an india-rubber rug has been tried. Such is what the English papers say, as if the shelter tent had never been tried in the American war with universal satisfaction.

THE military contributor of the *Cologne Gazette* writes that it has been in contemplation for a long time to add, in case of any eventual mobilization, to each German army corps one or several batteries of siege and position guns. At the battle of the Lissaine the employment of a number of the heavy guns taken from the siege artillery before Belfort was found exceedingly advantageous for keeping the position taken by General von Werder's corps. This intended armament has been practically realized during the present Russo-Turkish war both on the part of the Russians and the Turks.

LISUT. SAYCE, a retired officer of the British army, has patented a steel shield for soldiers. It is carried, when required, by the men suspended in front of the chest, and in this position it protects the vital parts of the body, but the particular feature in these shields, and which the inventor claims as the special novelty, is their use, when several are set up in a line upon the ground, in protecting the men while lying down or kneeling and firing from behind them. The shields, being slipped off the hooks, are set up by themselves, hinged double rest at the back supporting them, this rest requiring to be fitted in a particular manner, to resist the shield, when standing by itself, to resist the shock of a bullet striking it, without being overturned. This arrangement proves to be a considerable difficulty in perfecting the invention. The principal objection is the weight, but more than this would have to be carried extra, were it once proved there was an advantage in doing so, heavier weights having been formerly submitted to in ancient times, when physical activity was as necessary as it is at the present. One cart would carry a supply for two companies of a regiment, as the shields need not be issued to the men until they are in proximity to an enemy.

WE learn from a Paris contemporary that the field exercise instructions of the French infantry have been recently completed by the issue of the "Ecole de Brigade," a small book of only thirty-six pages, containing, as the name implies, the regulations for the movements and manoeuvring of a brigade. A division of infantry in the French army consists of two brigades, each of two regiments; each of these latter again placing three battalions of about 1,000 men each in the field. The average length of front to be occupied by such a division in the line of battle is fixed at 1,500 metres, giving about eight or ten men to every metre of front. The whole division is to be formed for action in two lines, but the first line is to have its own special reserve, this latter, therefore, forming an intermediate body between the first and proper second line. In the normal disposition four of the twelve battalions of which the division consists are to be in the front fighting line, two are to form the above mentioned special reserve, and the remaining six the second line, or general reserve. Three alternative methods are given in the newly issued instructions for the distribution of the division in this formation. In the first place, each of its two brigades may form a line, the one the first or fighting line with its special reserve, the other the second or reserve line; secondly, the two brigades may be drawn up side by side, each having a regiment in the first and a regiment in the second line; or, thirdly, the whole four regiments may be arrayed side by side, the battalions of each standing one behind the other.

THE general military activity in Europe is bringing out common sense in England as well as other countries, as witness the following recent memorandum issued for autumn manoeuvres in that country. The memorandum says that "when advancing to attack an enemy whose whereabouts and general position has been ascertained, but whose force is not yet displayed, the tendency has been to push forward, in the beginning, too many men into the firing line of the attacking force. The regulations lay down that in engaging a fight a whole company may be extended in the firing line, but they do not direct that a whole company should be, in all instances, at once extended. At the outset, therefore, in seeking for the actual position of the enemy's infantry, and endeavoring to ascertain its strength, a small number of men—a section—in very

extended order will attain this object, for they are sure to draw on them the fire of whatever force is opposed to them. If the opposing force is feeble, then a weak firing line will be equal to driving it in. If the opposing force is found to be strong, it is then time enough to reinforce the firing line up to the strength required for dealing with it. Where two opposing lines of infantry are in collision, direct (front) attacks against strong positions are constantly carried out, when opportunities exist for sending small parties by a slight detour against the flanks of the force attacked, and are not availed of. Such flank attacks are often capable of exercising a decisive influence on a struggle under conditions where modern experience shows that front attacks are inadmissible. The movements here alluded to are those that arise and recur after an action has commenced, and when the fight has developed itself. The initiative for carrying them out must, therefore, fall mainly on commanding officers of battalions, and, in some cases, on more subordinate officers. For general officers cannot be expected to do more than give the object and general direction of attack; working out the details must fall on regimental officers. It is here that a knowledge and appreciation of minor tactics is so beneficial."

BRITISH SHIPS OF WAR.—The *Army and Navy Gazette* says apropos of the speed of new British ships, that it is fully recognized that the speed attained by ships on their trial trips is not to be expected of them ever again, it being a sort of fancy speed resulting from careful stoking and from every possible care being taken to develop the utmost power of the engines. But it is scarcely to be anticipated that on active service the speed of a vessel should drop nearly one-half. Yet such was the case recently in one of her Majesty's ships which was employed to carry important despatches to the senior officer. The distance to be run was about two hundred miles, water smooth and bottom clean, and the average rate of speed attained was six and a-half knots. The trial trip speed was nearly eleven knots. Short-handed stoke-hold complement and bad stoking were the causes of this slow work. Besides this it seems that in England courts of inquiry into the causes of breakdowns of newly-commissioned ships threaten to become rather frequent. Possibly the keen competition amongst contractors to obtain Admiralty orders may have something to do with the frequency of failures afloat, for it has been found by contractors that they had cut down their estimates in the hope of getting the contract to a figure which it was afterwards discovered could not pay. Then comes an inducement to economise in workmanship and material.

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#### MARRIED.

[Announcements of Marriages and Births FIFTY CENTS each and the signature and address of the party sending must accompany the notice.]

MOORE—CARLETON.—In San Francisco, Cal., Oct. 2, 1877, by the Rev. Dr. W. A. Scott, Lieut. E. K. Moore, U. S. Navy, to Mrs. Eva Vansant, daughter of the late Gen. Jas. H. Carleton, U. S. Army. No cards.

#### DIED.

Brief announcements will be inserted under this head without charge. Obituary notices and resolutions should be paid for at the rate of two cents a word, unless it is intended to leave the question of their insertion to the discretion of the Editor.

BALDWIN.—At Westchester, N. Y., on Wednesday, Oct. 11, 1877, THOMAS W. BALDWIN, late Post Trader Fort Sisseton, Dakota Territory.

#### "OH, I'M SO COLD!"

The way to prevent such exposures, and to feel really comfortable in cold weather, is to wear Smith's Patent Perforated Buckskin Undergarments. Being perforated they do not retain moisture, but keep the body in a uniform degree of warmth. The medical profession, by whom they are highly recommended, say "uniform warmth assures uniform health." Premium has been awarded by American Institute, for seven consecutive years. Send for circular. D. C. HALL & CO., 764 Broadway, New York.



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